

For Immediate Release January 7, 2022 Contact: <u>Russell Blair</u> (860) 559-4873

HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY AND IRS TO OFFER FREE, IN-PERSON TAX HELP FOR QUALIFYING TAXPAYERS

Assistance limited to households or individuals with income less than \$58,000 in 2021

(Hartford, CT) – Hartford Public Library is partnering with the Internal Revenue Service's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program to offer free, in-person tax preparation assistance for qualifying individuals and families on an appointment basis.

Appointments with tax preparation volunteers can be made beginning Monday, Jan. 10, at <u>211ct.org/taxhelp</u> or by calling Hartford Public Library at 860-695-6300. The appointments will be held on the main floor of the Downtown Library at 500 Main St. on Fridays and Saturdays between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. from Jan. 28 through April 16.

On two Saturdays – Feb. 19 and April 9 – anyone who qualifies can visit the Downtown Library without an appointment to get their taxes prepared.

"We are pleased to be able to once again offer this valuable tax preparation help to the Hartford community," said **Hartford Public Library President and CEO Bridget E. Quinn**. "We would like to give special thanks to the volunteers who make the VITA program possible."

The VITA program has been operated by the IRS for more than 50 years and provides free tax help to people who need assistance in preparing their own returns, including:

- People who generally make \$58,000 or less annually.
- Persons with disabilities.
- Limited English-speaking taxpayers.

Those coming to the Library for tax assistance are asked to bring a photo ID and all necessary documents such as wage and earning statements (W-2, W-2G, 1099-R, 1099-Misc), a copy of last year's tax return, if available, and bank account information if they wish to receive their return in a direct deposit. For married couples filing jointly, both spouses must be present.

About Hartford Public Library

Now celebrating its 128th year, Hartford Public Library remains at the forefront of redefining the urban library experience in the 21st century. With seven locations throughout the city, the library

provides education, intellectual enrichment and cultural development for thousands of children, youth and adults every year. Hartford Public Library has also gained local and national recognition for its wide range of new initiatives and partnerships designed to meet the needs of a diverse and dynamic city and region, including immigration services, employment assistance and youth leadership training. www.hplct.org.