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For Immediate Release

Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation Continues to Support Hartford Public Library's Early Literacy Initiative

Hartford, July 5, 2017 — Hartford Public Library's Leap into Learning has received a \$10,000 relationship grant for Phase Three funding from the Brown Rudnick Charitable Foundation.

Since September, 2015, Hartford Public Library and its Leap Into Learning/Child Care Program, has worked with 24 licensed and unlicensed home-based child care providers to increase their knowledge of child development, early childhood curriculums, and the most current brain development research to ensure they offer high-quality care to their young learners. Through a series of in-home visits, hands-on training workshops, and material resources, library staff has helped build their knowledge and skills. Ten of these providers were selected to continue to Phase Two, Providers Teaching Parents. These providers are currently passing on the knowledge they have gained in Phase One of Leap Into Learning to the parents of the children in their charge.

The Third and final phase of this program is called Parent Library Ambassadors. Ten parents from our current cohort in Phase Two will be chosen to represent the Library at community events, help plan and execute programs for families with young children, and network with families and organizations to spread the word about the Library and its resources for families with children from age birth to five. These Parent Ambassadors will also receive training from the Parent Leadership Training Institute and/or People Empowering People, offered through the City of Hartford. The aim is to move from just informing and consulting with parents to involving, collaborating and finally empowering them.

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ABOUT HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

As a finalist for the 2013 and 2014 National Medal from the Institute for Museum and Library Services, Hartford Public Library has been recognized as national leader in redefining the urban public library in the 21st century as an innovative and stimulating place that provides free resources that inspire reading, guide learning, and encourage individual exploration. In 2015-16, the 10 locations of the Hartford Public Library counted 850,000 visits, circulated 408,972 items and had 71,059 registered borrowers. We serve adults, children and families seeking early literacy opportunities, work skills training, civic engagement, arts enrichment, and so much more. Please visit www.hplct.org.