

PRESS RELEASE

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Hartford Public Library To Spread Wi-Fi Access Throughout Hartford

HARTFORD – Hartford Public Library is taking its efforts at connectivity on the road with initiatives designed to increase Wi-Fi connectivity throughout Hartford.

"Our Library on Wheels is one of the resources that allows us the opportunity to creatively deliver service during crucial times like these," said Leticia Cotto, HPL's Customer Experience Officer.

The library has prioritized delivering Wi-FI hotspots to spaces where people are homebound and transitional living spaces without Wi-Fi access to provide connectivity for entertainment, to stay informed, and support distance learning.

HPL Wi-Fi spots have been delivered to

- Immanuel House (15 Woodlawn Street), an assisted living space for people 62 years old and older.
- Warming Center at Milner School (104 Vine Street). A City of Hartford-run refuge for people experiencing homelessness.

Other locations are being identified.

HPL's Library on Wheels also functions as a mobile Wi-Fi hotspot. Plans to use it as a Mobile Wi-Fi Hub strategically throughout the city are underway.

The deployment of the Library on Wheels to spread Wi-Fi access is just one of the innovative methods HPL is using to expand its outreach during the Covid-19 quarantine.

"If people can't come to us, how do we go to them in a safe way and still meet needs?" We see the importance of doing this kind of outreach because we recognize the need for Wi-Fi city wide and when we were open to the public, experienced a continued increase in our Wi-Fi usage systemwide," Cotto said.

For more information about Hartford Public Library, visit hplct.org.

About Hartford Public Library

Now celebrating its 126th 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.

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