



For Planning Purposes
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VISION TO LEARN OFFERING CHILDREN FREE EYE EXAMS, EYEGLASSES AT HARTFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

(Hartford, CT) – Hartford Public Library is partnering with the nonprofit Vision to Learn to provide free eye exams and free eyeglasses to city youth this month at library locations across Hartford, just in time for the start of the school year.

The program is open to children ages 5 to 18. No insurance is necessary. Appointments are required and can be made by calling the library at **860-695-6300**.

According to Vision to Learn, an estimated 40,000 children in Connecticut's Alliance School Districts, a group that includes Hartford Public Schools, go to school each day without glasses needed to see a whiteboard, read a book or participate in class.

Once an appointment is made, the child and an accompanying adult will visit the library during their allotted time for a free eye exam conducted on site by Vision to Learn's trained experts. Children who are in need of eyeglasses will be provided with a pair free of charge.

Vision to Learn visited two Hartford Public Library locations earlier this summer, providing dozens of children with eyeglasses.

The schedule for Vision to Learn's August visits is as follows:

August 15

Dwight Library
7 New Park Ave.

August 16

Barbour Library
261 Barbour St.

August 17

Albany Library
1250 Albany Ave.

August 22

Camp Field Library
30 Campfield Ave.

August 23

Park Street Library @ the Lyric
603 Park St.

August 24

Downtown Library
500 Main St.

-30-

About Hartford Public Library

With roots dating to 1774, 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.

About Vision to Learn

Vision To Learn was founded in 2012 by the Beutner Family Foundation. The program has helped kids in over 500 underserved communities in 14 states. Vision To Learn serves the needs of the hardest-to-reach children; about 90% of kids served by Vision To Learn live in poverty and about 85% are kids of color. Since its founding, Vision To Learn has helped provide more than 1.5 million children with vision screenings, more than 340,000 with eye exams and more than 270,000 with glasses – all free of charge to children and their families.

www.visiontolearn.org.