




**Can you see  
the scientists  
of the future?  
WE CAN**






**Child  
Development  
Center**



The Women's League Child Development Center invites you to partner with us in creating one of the **first STEAM labs of its kind** for preschool children in Hartford!

With your support, we can transform the second floor of Women's League. Picture this: a fun, stimulating, flexibly designed, hands-on educational lab where Hartford's youngest children can explore their curiosity in science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM).

**IMAGINE WHAT WE CAN DO TOGETHER:**

-  Give children the joy of learning about insects, butterflies, seeds, soil, ramps, weather, machines, planets, construction, and much more.
-  Give Hartford's children — regardless of their family's income — the same access and opportunity as their suburban counterparts for STEAM foundational learning.
-  Nurture the Black and Brown scientists, technology professionals, engineers, and mathematicians of tomorrow — currently severely underrepresented in STEAM careers (which offer the most opportunities and income!)

Our goal is to raise

**\$30,000**

to renovate our second floor and equip the new STEAM lab.

With *your* help, we can do it.



**YOUR GIFT WILL PROVIDE TODDLERS AND PRESCHOOL CHILDREN WITH:**

- **microscopes, petri dishes, and little lab coats**
- **a mini-greenhouse**
- **ramps, wind tunnels, and conveyor belts**
- **magnetic wheels and blocks**
- **books, software, and art supplies**
- **building materials and toy machines**
- **computer stations**



This past year, our preschool classroom teachers participated in the national pilot of a preschool science curriculum. Equipped with that learning, we are ready to transform our second floor (previously a storage space!) into a state-of-the-art, child-focused STEAM lab.

## What does it take to excel in early education? WE'VE GOT IT

**1** **We meet or exceed the highest standards** set by the National Association for the Education of Young Children — we've been accredited since 1991!

**2** **We employ college-educated, certified, highly-trained teachers who continuously learn.** Many have been with us for decades.

**3** **Our many distinguished alumni are a testament to our standard of excellence.** They include New England's first popularly elected Black mayor, Thirman Milner, Connecticut State Treasurers Shawn Wooden and Denise Nappier, and the chair of Manchester's Board of Education, Darryl Thames, Sr.

**4** **Our state-of-the-art building, classrooms, and outdoor spaces** are chock-full of stimulating educational activities. A STEAM lab will complement those.

**5** **Active inquiry-based teaching and learning** are central to our approach.

**6** **Our families are children's greatest teachers so we wrap them in support, giving them the tools** they need to nurture their children along with us.

**7** **Classroom technology keeps our parents and guardians engaged** in their child's learning — in real-time! — using apps like SeeSaw and Sparkle.

**8** **Our roots are deep in Hartford.** African American ministers' wives founded Women's League more than more than a century ago. Their entrepreneurial legacy of caring and excellence endures today in our Center. Cherished by the community, we've educated thousands of Hartford children.

**9** **We measure progress and learn from it.** Our STEAM lab plan includes careful data collection. By comparing it against standards from the Office of Early Childhood and the City of Hartford, we'll track our children's growth and improve on our methods.

**10** **For children at Women's League, learning and health go hand-in-hand.** Advanced safety protocols include a full-time nurse, hand washing stations and hand sanitizing stations at each classroom, body temperature scanning, and two ZONOS sanitizing systems for daily cleaning of toys and objects.

# The time is **NOW** to close the opportunity gap for children of color and STEAM

- **In the next decade, an estimated 75% of jobs in the fastest growing industries will require a background in science.** Yet, Black and Latino people are severely underrepresented in science, technology, engineering and math careers. Without high-quality STEM instruction, children of color are “locked out” of the jobs offering the most opportunity and income.
- **Research shows that children exposed to science, technology, engineering and math develop greater critical thinking skills, creativity and problem-solving abilities.** These skills expand into other subject areas and set up future academic success.
- **In surveys, our families indicated their support** for relevant, engaging, learning experiences that provide “a leg up” for children by the time they enter elementary school.
- **A child’s greatest brain development occurs by age five.** That’s why early education has an enormous impact on the growth, development and future success of children.
- **A child’s zip code should never be a barrier to a quality education.** A STEAM lab at Women’s League is a step toward eradicating the wealth and racial disparities often facing people of color. Many of our families are working to overcome poverty.

## Ready to give the gift of STEAM education?



We **gratefully accept charitable donations** via cash, check, or credit card.



Grants from **donor-advised funds** are also welcomed. We can provide you with our tax ID number in order to make your gift.



Giving online is easy at **womensleaguecdc.org/donate**



We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. All contributions to Women’s League are **tax-deductible**.



### Contact:

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womensleaguecdc.org

**Windsor-based  
Vantis Life Insurance Co. has  
already contributed a \$5,000  
seed gift for the new STEAM lab!**

# Yes, I'll help create a STEAM lab for the children at Women's League!

## Leadership Giving Levels



**Space Explorers**  
\$10,000



**Inventors**  
\$8,000



**Entrepreneurs**  
\$5,000



**Builders**  
\$2,500



**Techies**  
\$1,000

### MY GIFT

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

*Gifts of any amount are very much appreciated*

## PAYMENT INFORMATION

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

*(As it should appear on publicity materials)*

I'd like my gift to be anonymous

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my check made payable to: **Women's League Child Development Center**

My employer will match my gift

Please charge my:  Mastercard  Visa  Amex  Discover

Card number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

My gift is in  in Honor of  in Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please include address or email if you would like the person or family to be notified)*

Kindly return to: Women's League Child Development Center  
1695 Main St.  
Hartford, CT 06120

OR give online at [womensleaguecdc.org/donate](http://womensleaguecdc.org/donate)

***We are so grateful for your support! Thank you!***



*Scan code to  
give online*

