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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FERGUSON LIBRARY RECIEVES FUNDING TO PROVIDE DIGITAL SKILLS TRAINING FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

STAMFORD, June 24, 2020 – The Ferguson Library has been selected to participate in Libraries Lead with Digital Skills, an initiative of the American Library Association and the Public Library Association, sponsored by Grow with Google, the tech company's economic opportunity initiative. The \$2,000 award will allow The Ferguson to offer a series of programs to help small businesses grow online.

The series funded by the grant will highlight a variety of Google and other resources that small business owners will need to navigate a changed, virtual world. The classes will include a primer on Google tools, such as Google Analytics and Google Ad tools, as well as sessions on building an optimized website, social media platforms for small businesses and unleashing the power of You Tube. The program will be supported by the Ferguson Library's two Entrepreneurs-in-Residence, who will guide participants as they adapt their businesses to a post COVID world.

Libraries Lead with Digital Skills was created so local libraries can combine their own program offerings with Grow with Google training materials to offer virtual community workshops or other activities aimed at empowering small businesses to grow online or assisting job seekers to prepare for and find work.

The Ferguson Library is Stamford's public library system, consisting of the Main Library, DiMattia Building; the Harry Bennett Branch; the Weed Memorial & Hollander Branch; the South End Branch and a traveling Bookmobile. It provides free and equal access to information, ideas, books and technology to educate, engage and enrich the Stamford community. For more information visit www.fergusonlibrary.org.