



**HOWARD COUNTY
LIBRARY SYSTEM**
Public Education for All

On the Road to Kindergarten Mobile Unit



Background

HCLS is purchasing a mobile unit to bring its preschool classes and learning resources to children, birth through three years of age, and their parents/caregivers from asset limited and income constrained families in communities that have also been directly affected by the pandemic.



By visiting locations (e.g., preschools, daycare facilities, community/service centers, parks, shopping centers, businesses) in these communities, classes and services will be fully accessible, enabling children to take their first steps to become ready and successful kindergarten students.



The vehicle will be outfitted with:

- A collection of library materials in a variety of formats that have been curated to meet the needs of the families being served
- Outdoor awning and furniture for classes outside the van
- Chromebooks and mobile hotspots

The vehicle will also function as a mobile hotspot, providing Internet access to the nearby community during each stop, and is expected to be ready by fall 2021.

On the Road to Kindergarten is funded in part by Friends & Foundation of HCLS, grants from Howard County Government, M&T Charitable Foundation, PNC Foundation, and the HoCoBalt Book Club.

If you are interested in supporting this initiative, please visit friendshcls.org

The Friends and Foundation of Howard County Library System is a nonprofit organization that supports HCLS in its mission to deliver high quality education for all ages.