

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Collaboration feeds seniors during crisis

To keep Stamford seniors safe at home over the last several months, SilverSource has been delivering groceries to the doorsteps of more than 300 older residents each week, enough to make more than 135,000



meals. This Herculean task could not have been achieved without the invaluable cooperation and collaboration of a number of true community partners.

SilverSource has been proud and grateful to work with Ellen Bromley and the City of

Stamford Social Services Department; Matt Quinones and the Stamford Board of Representatives; Marie Allen and the Southwest Connecticut Agency on Aging; Chris Crain and the Stamford Senior Center; Bridget Fox, Lauren Scopaz-Daunais, Cara Mitchell and the United Way of Western Connecticut; and Joe Kelly and the Stamford Marriott Hotel, all of whom have provided significant support for our efforts to get essential food to the most vulnerable population in this crisis — older residents.

On behalf of all at SilverSource, I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to these amazing community partners who stepped up to provide what was needed to get the job done, including much-needed space for this substantial and complex operation. Without their support, we would not have been able to physically accommodate the complicated process involving large deliveries, storage, refrigeration, sorting, packing and distribution.

At the peak of the crisis, it was truly comforting to know that our community was ready and willing to deliver on whatever was needed to ensure our older neighbors were safe. The beauty and power of public/private partnership and cooperation across sectors is to be lauded and celebrated. Profound thanks to all our partners in this venture. We simply couldn't have done it without you.

My deepest appreciation also goes to our staff and team of 80 volunteers, who helped make these deliveries each week, as well as to all those generous donors who supported us to make this program possible.

With the curve flattening in Fairfield County and things opening up, this service will now be scaled back. However, we will continue to distribute food to those whose physical disabilities or health concerns make them unable to go out. In this way we deliver on our mission to provide a safety net to seniors in need.

Kathleen Bordelon is chief executive officer of SilverSource.