

SilverSource, Inc.
2009 Summer Street
Stamford, CT 06905

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Laura Roberts, [203-273-2218](tel:203-273-2218)
Laura@LauraRobertsMarketing.com

SilverSource Announces Award Winners

STAMFORD, CT (October 4, 2016) SilverSource Inc.– a leader in advocating for the needs of older adults and their families– announced the winners of the first annual SilverSource Awards today. The awards will be presented October 27 during the 2nd Annual SilverSource Autumn Breakfast at the Italian Center of Stamford.

The awards recognize individuals, organizations or businesses making a significant difference in the lives of Fairfield County's older adults. Nominations were evaluated by a panel of judges comprised of community, business and thought leaders. The 2016 SilverSource Award winners are as follows:

The SilverSource Community Service Volunteer Awards go to Dorothy Canzano and Daniel S. Katz.

Dorothy Canzano: For 33 years Dorothy has volunteered at The Villa at Stamford (formerly Smith House), where she visits with residents, listening to their stories and keeping them up to date on local news while transporting them to special services at the Villa. She is a cheerful presence and highly regarded by residents and staff alike. At age 93, Dorothy is the oldest volunteer at The Villa at Stamford, where she contributes her time three days each week. Dorothy has created personal connections and contributes greatly to residents' overall well-being and health.

Daniel S. Katz.

Dan Katz is a key volunteer with two programs serving Stamford's seniors. Dan has volunteered for 15 years with MedAssist CHOICES, an all-volunteer program helping over 800 older adults each year navigate complex healthcare billing and insurance issues. In addition, he has volunteered with the AARP Tax-Aide volunteer tax assistance program in Stamford for 18 years. In this role he assists primarily elderly people to file taxes and get refunds - again at no charge to the client. Dan's work with MedAssist CHOICES and AARP Tax-Aide is directly aligned with SilverSource's vision for a society that ensures older adults have the resources to live independent, healthy and fulfilled lives. Dan's empathy, energy and enthusiasm are an inspiration to other volunteers as well.

The SilverSource Contribution to Community Award by Outstanding Individuals goes to Maureen Matthews, founder of To Whom I May Concern; and Attorney Jean Mills Aranha, CT Legal Services.

Maureen Matthews: Maureen Matthews, RN, PhD is the founder of *To Whom I May Concern*, and is also the senior moderator and writer for the program. Maureen has many years of experience as a nurse and psychotherapist, working in the field of dementia. She has worked with people with Alzheimer's disease and related illnesses, and their families and friends, for over 30 years. In the community, Maureen has participated in the assessment and treatment process and facilitated support group and psycho-social activities for people with early stage memory loss, as well as collaborated with nursing homes to develop specialized care programs. She created *To Whom I May Concern*, an interactive theater program, to give voice to people who have recently been diagnosed with a progressive brain illness such as Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia. Using their own words and scripting, these individuals share their stories and experiences with audiences made up of family members, peers, friends, care partners, and professionals. Working with a professional moderator and writer, in groups online or in person, clients are able to create their own narrative, expressing their fear, anger, frustration, hope and determination — often with humor and love.

Jean Mills Aranha: Jean is a staff attorney at Connecticut Legal Services, Inc., where she works in the Elder Law and Public Benefits Units as well as doing legislative advocacy on behalf of the poor. The Elder Law Unit represents and advises low income individuals age 60 and up. The cases include a broad range of issues such as access to health care and home care and ensuring that seniors receive all the retirement, disability and public benefits they are entitled to. She prepares living wills, health-care directives and powers of attorney. She also represents nursing home residents, defending them from involuntary discharges. Jean also advocates for older adults when they have incorrect denials or terminations of benefits, illegal delays in the provision of benefits, and incorrect benefits payments. Jean solves some of the most challenging problems facing older adults who receive services on a pro-bono basis, and she always makes them feel respected and heard while advocating on their behalf.

The SilverSource Contribution to Community Award by an Outstanding Organization goes to Community Health Center (CHC).

Community Health Center is a leading independent, non-profit healthcare provider in the state of Connecticut, providing comprehensive primary care services in medicine, dentistry, and behavioral health to more than 145,000 people. CHC is committed to serving the uninsured or underinsured older adults. Mark Maselli, founder, will accept the award on behalf of CHC.

Awards will be presented on October 27, 2016 at the 2nd Annual SilverSource Autumn Breakfast where attendees will learn how farsighted communities are preparing for the rise of the over 60 population. Experts Lindsay Goldman and Julia Evans Starr will showcase challenges facing our communities and share innovative solutions. The event takes place from 7am - 9:30 am at the Italian Center of Stamford, located at 1620 Newfield Avenue. Tickets are now on sale and sponsorship opportunities are available, visit www.SilverSource.org or call 203-324-6584.

About SilverSource, Inc.

SilverSource was founded in 1908. It is an independent, 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization that provides information, financial support, and specialized services that positively improve the quality of life for people over age 60 while serving as a resource center and referral source for older adults and their families. SilverSource, Inc., is located at 2009 Summer Street in Stamford, CT 06905. For more information visit www.silversource.org or call [203.324.6584](tel:203.324.6584).

Images to accompany this release:

Dorothy Canzano.jpg

Daniel Katz.jpg

Maureen Matthews.jpg

Jean Mills Aranha.jpg

Mark Masselli.jpg

Caption: SilverSource Inc. announced the winners of the first annual SilverSource Awards, recognizing individuals, organizations or businesses making a significant difference in the lives of Fairfield County's older adults. The awards will be presented October 27 during the 2nd Annual SilverSource Autumn Breakfast. For details visit www.SilverSource.org

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