



Southington Community Services
91 Norton Street
Plantsville, CT 06479
(860) 628-3761



Annual Report
July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

The mission statement of Southington Community Services (SCS) is:
To assist and empower Southington residents.

Southington Community Services (SCS) is located in the Old Milldale Firehouse #3 at 91 Norton Street in the Plantsville section of Southington. SCS hours of operation are from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Later or earlier appointments can be scheduled upon request. SCS aids those in need 365 days a year. When the office is closed, we are available for emergency services through the Southington Police, Fire, and Building departments.

Full-time employees: Janet Mellon mellonj@southington.org
Mark Fazzolari fazzolarim@southington.org
Vincent Tranquilli tranquilliv@southington.org

Seasonal employees: Paul Champagne George Cole Tess Drezek
Jonathan Moise Frank Salerno Tom Wolf

Southington Community Services relies on volunteers to provide necessary services to residents of Southington. As you can see, starting in March our volunteer hours drastically lessened due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Month	Volunteer Hours
Jul-19	1,886
Aug-19	2,135
Sep-19	1,591
Oct-19	2,013
Nov-19	2,493
Dec-19	2,263
Jan-20	1,870
Feb-20	1,625
Mar-20	878
Apr-20	808
May-20	569
Jun-20	530
Total	18,661
Average	1,555

Mission Statement: *“To Assist and Empower Southington Residents.”*

To accomplish this mission, we:

- Serve as a link between private providers, human services, and governmental agencies.
- Assist those helping themselves to accomplish their goals.
- Provide financial assistance, which is usually limited to those who have the ability or plan to pay their finances in the future.
- Work with residents to help prevent them from falling into a situation that they may not be able to get out from under.
- Work with residents who are just over the limits for state assistance and have nowhere else to go for assistance.
- Work with different departments throughout town hall to ensure that resident issues don't fall through the cracks.

A few examples of financial and general assistance:

- Provide supplemental food to help residents with their grocery shopping.
- Work with the fire and police departments to assist those residents at their time of need.
- Assist with car repair bills so that the person has transportation for a job or job interview.
- Assist with rent/mortgage payment to prevent a foreclosure or eviction.
- Provide assistance with a utility bill or assist residents with programs to prevent their power/heat from being turned off.
- Provide assistance with a prescription (no narcotics) and trying to obtain insurance for further prescriptions.
- Provide assistance with applying for medical insurance.
- Provide assistance with applying for SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), formally known as Food Stamps.

The New Normal at SCS:

The coronavirus pandemic has forced everyone to make major changes. As we were deemed essential services, SCS never closed and stayed open to serve Southington residents. Some of the changes made at SCS to protect staff, volunteers, and clients were:

- Storage and workspace shelving were replaced with rolling racks allowing for better access for cleaning and storage.
- Hand sanitizers and wipes have been placed at all work areas. Boxes of gloves, sanitizers, and wipes have been purchased and placed at all desks. Large wipe dispensers have been conveniently located throughout the facility.
- Partitions or curtains have been placed at all staff desk work areas. Each desk has either a plexiglass screen between the employee and client seating or a clear curtain that can be drawn to separate individuals. By changing some practices, we also reduced the number of individuals who have to be counseled face-to-face. We have now provided services remotely.
- Major changes have been made to the lobby area by eliminating the “closet” in order to accommodate up to four clients spaced 6 feet apart.

- The number of people working in the food pantry at any one time has been reduced to a maximum of three. Keeping the number of people working as low as possible is necessary to enable social distancing for the safety of volunteers, staff, and clients.
- The lobby, front room, and office have been cleaned, sanitized, and repainted. Additionally, the flooring, mostly carpeting, has been replaced with new, waterproof, seamless, and easily cleaned and sanitized flooring.
- Hands-free water spouts were installed in both bathrooms. These, along with the automated dryers that we had previously installed, enable touch-free handwashing.
- Installed two new tables to place between the pantry door and the clients. The ones we had previously were bendable in the middle and caused problems when passing heavy items to clients. These non-bendable tables make the area much safer for both clients and staff.
- Installed a no-contact-with-staff lock box outside so that clients can drop off needed documentation without having to come into the building.
- Placed a stand-up Purell hand-sanitizing unit for individuals in the waiting room.

Most of the funding for the above projects was from Friends of Community Services. We will continue to improve our operations and how we keep our office safe for all.

In addition, we understood that the residents were having a hard time dealing with the changes. So, from April through June, we added something special to each food package.

Listed below are some of the items we included in their food packages:

- Gift card to Tops Supermarket (donated by the Osterman Foundation and Tops Supermarket)
- Mother's Day gift in May
- Four hearts to hang on their windows at home
- Gift cards to local restaurants and grocery stores (donated by the Southington UNICO Club)
- Father's Day gift in June

Councilman Paul Chaplinsky worked with SCS and the town and made modifications to our website so people can donate funds to SCS online. From April through June, \$6,303 was donated online.

In June, the Southington Town Council recognized and presented several Southington residents with a distinguished service award. The following people were recognized for volunteering in our office during the pandemic:

Paul Champagne
Linda Mendelsohn
Jonathan Moise
Betti Perrotti

Julia Reilly
John Taillie
Robin Taillie

From the beginning of March, 2020, until the end of May, 2020, many residents donated or volunteered. The residents that made it possible for our office to continue normal operations during this time were:

Ann Anop
Mary Barbagallo
Ryan Baustien
Lee Beckwith
Sandra Brino
Paul Champagne
Councilman Paul Chaplinsky
Michael Clavette
Jodi Lynn Derwin
Jenn Dobratz
Molly Dobratz
Emily Dupre
Beth Egliskis
Myra Frost
Laureen Galayda
Colleen Gregson
Sheri Guarino
Jen Jackman
Marcia Kelly
Pat Kemish
Gwen Khan
Heather Kidwell
Riley McNamara
Jenny McPherson
Linda Mendelsohn

Jonathan Moise
Nancy Moise
Kristen Muir
Joe Nagy
Nardelli's
Leah Nichols
Councilman Christopher Palmieri
Betti Perrotti
Danny Raviaaz
Julia Reilly
Matt Reimondo
Kathy Reinhard
Jackie Santos-Villegas
John Taillie
Robin Taillie
Soda Service and Alpine
Refrigeration
Southington Community YMCA
Neil Ukani
United Way of Southington
Debbie Uterstaedt
Alice Valentine
Youth Services
Michelle Ziogas

Donations to SCS:

All monetary donations that our office receives are dedicated for 100% client use. No administrative funds are taken out of any donations. The Town of Southington covers all administrative costs.

Major Financial Donors:

American Legion Auxiliary Kiltonic Unit 72
Archdiocese of Hartford Archbishop's Appeal
Community Foundation of Greater New Britain
First Congregational Church of Southington
Rosemarie Fischer
Gentlemen's Gathering Club
Ann Gilland
Allan & Judith Heinke
Karen & Bob Jankavich
John & Susan Parsons

Plantsville Congregational Church
Sharon Poupart
Paul Raczynski - The Big Fifty
Rotary Club of Southington
Salvation Army
Southington Elks
Southington Lions Foundation for Giving
Stop & Shop
United Way of Southington

Monetary donations were made in celebration of the following places or people:

Wallace & Bette Ann Bailey

Tops Market

Monetary donations were made in memory of the following people:

Paul Barrett
Erminia Cusano
Anne Egri
Sam Manzo

Pat Musshorn
Tessie Naranjo
Mary Okenquist
Robert Parent

A few of the many acts of kindness are listed below:

- Madison Hendricks has been asking for donations of cereal instead of gifts on her birthday for the past several years. Her continual generosity and dedication are amazing.
- Gabrielle used her confirmation hours at St. Dominic's by collecting sports equipment and clothing to donate to SCS.
- AJ Colwick, a student at SHS, held three food drives during the COVID-19 shutdown.
- Kathryn donated her birthday gifts to SCS so they could be given to the children in town.
- Laney Sullivan from Girl Scout Troop 66856 worked on our memory garden to complete her Silver Award project.
- On a hot July day, Kennedy McClellan sold lemonade to purchase food for SCS.
- Jameson and Christian Hewko, along with Braedon and Noah Roderick, also had a lemonade stand, and their donations went to SCS to purchase food for the food pantry.
- Ethan, age 5, and his older brother Gavin, also sold lemonade and donated all the profits to SCS.
- Ellie Siegel, age 7, donated filled backpacks for the Southington students.
- Willa and her brother David went to Aldi's and purchased 68 pounds of groceries for the food pantry.
- Mario, Tessa, and Nicholas collected food items and money for the food pantry.
- The Community Foundation of Greater New Britain donated 900 reusable bags for our food pantry.
- Alana Mendelsohn and the employees of Gems assisted SCS in organizing our office.
- The SHS Key Club helped make the food baskets for the holidays.
- The Faith Baptist Church assisted in the delivery of the Thanksgiving food baskets.
- The SHS football team, the girls' tennis team, and the Polish Falcons, under the direction of Chris Shanley-Buck, organized the Christmas food delivery.
- Raya Clinic held their annual Easter basket candy drive.
- Officer Kristen Muir, her son Ryan Baustien, and Jenn and Molly Dobratz delivered 172 Easter baskets to Southington children.
- Three Brothers Property cleaned out and mulched the SCS property at no cost.
- The Southington Police held their annual toy drive, filling a trailer.
- The kind folks at Rogers Orchards supplied apples and pies to add to the Thanksgiving meals we distributed.

- The Southington Fire Department Company #1 is amazing. They delivered the holiday gifts to our seniors and shut-ins.
- The Southington Knights of Columbus purchased several boxes of new coats for children to make sure no child in Southington was cold this winter.

The following groups held food drives and/or holiday drives:

American Medical Response	Sharon Kavanah Kleinhen and her family
Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices NE Properties	Raya Clinic
Bloom Yoga Fitness Studios	The Rotary Club of Southington
Flanders Elementary School	Southington Country Club
Fur Babies, Pristine Paws, and Village Pet Grooming	Southington Public Library
Horatio's Bar in Waterbury	Employees at Southington Town Hall
Ivy Rehab Physical Therapy	Valentine the Clown
	Sarah and Lauren Warych
	Webster Bank

School Programs:

- Staples started their first annual Fill a Car week for school supplies for the Back-to-School Program.
- Wal-Mart held a Stuff the Bus event for school supplies. During this event, a man named Martin went into the store and came back with two full carriages of school supplies to donate.
- In a joint effort with Target, the Southington Police Department and the Southington Cadets delivered backpacks filled with school supplies, as well as clothing, to assist with the Back-to-School programs.

The following churches in Southington assisted with food donations, financial donations, volunteering for programs, and/or holiday assistance:

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints	Plantsville Congregational Church
Faith Baptist Church	Saint Aloysius Church
First Baptist Church	Saint Dominic Church
First Congregational Church	Saint Paul Episcopal Church
First Lutheran Church	Saint Thomas Church
Grace United Methodist Church	Southington Clergy Association
Immaculate Conception Church	The Tabernacle Christian Church
Mary Our Queen Church	

Shelves were sponsored in memory of the following people:

Jim Aparo	Ellen Gioia & James Fasulo
Ray & Cecile Chapman	Lester Pierson

Shelf Sponsors:

American Legion Auxiliary (Hartford County)
American Legion Auxiliary (Southington)
Beason Retiree Benefits Group
Catlin Family
Cato/Powell Family
Elks Lodge #1669
First Lutheran Church
Gelada Family
Interact Club
Key Club
Kiwanis Club of Southington
Peter & Paula Leibovitz
Lutkus Family
The Mark & Meidoros Families

Mary Our Queen Youth Ministry
Micacci Fischer Family
Pet Valu
Plantsville Congregational Church
Plantsville Engine Co. 2
Rotary Club of Southington
Sassy Mama's Sweets
Smokin' with Chris
Sorelle d'Italia
Southington Catholic School
Southington Lions Club
Southington Women for Progress
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Village Pet Grooming
Wednesday Bible Babes
Zion Lutheran Church of Southington

SCS Community Foundation Funds:

- **Their Vision:** This fund was established at the Community Foundation of Greater New Britain (www.cfgnb.org) by Kaye Davis, Teri Javier, and Janet Mellon to honor Kathy Reinhard, Peter Veronneau, and Stuart Estra for all they have done and continue to do for the Southington Community. The fund has been modified to also honor Kaye Davis who passed away last year.

Fund balance as of June 30, 2019: \$34,853

- **Julius D. Bristol Fund:** This fund was established many years ago by Julius D. Bristol to provide school necessities for Southington children. The fund is administered by the Main Street Community Foundation (www.mainstreetfoundation.org)

Fund balance as of June 30, 2020: \$166,065

- **Inside Rebecca's Bag:** This fund was established at the Main Street Community Foundation (www.mainstreetfoundation.org)
- to honor Rebecca Michlin for the way she improved the school programs sponsored by SCS.

Fund balance as of June 30, 2020: \$23,327

- **Kristen's Wishes:** This fund was established at the Main Street Community Foundation (www.mainstreetfoundation.org) in memory of Kristen Warner.

Fund balance as of June 30, 2020: \$27,276

Friends of Southington Community Services:

Friends of Southington Community Services supports Community Services in its mission.

Friends of Southington Community Services received the following grants from July 2019–June 2020:

- Turkey Leg Challenge via Liberty Bank: \$8,125
- Foodshare: \$3,000

We received memorial gifts upon the passing of our treasurer Mrs. Kaye (Kathryn) Davis totaling \$1,780.

We receive corporate donations from:

- Jim Earl and Linda Maxwell from Guaranteed Rate: \$10,600
- F and F Materials: \$5,000
- Calvanese Foundation: \$5,000
- Southington Runs on Dunkin' on Meriden Waterbury Turnpike: \$5,000
- Osterman Family Foundation: \$1,000
- During the month of December, William (Bill) Leonard, Hitchcock Printing in New Britain, held their annual Southington Dreams for Friends of SCS.

Some of the items funded by our organization this year were:

- Purchased food for the food pantry.
- Purchased gift cards for senior Christmas gifts.
- Assisted with utility payments for residents.
- Subsidized rent for a storage area for SCS.
- Subsidized a purchase of a pre-owned car for a client.
- Renovated the office and donation areas to comply with recommended guidelines from the CDC regarding the COVID-19 crisis.
- Repaired pantry freezers, refrigerators, and vehicles.

SCS Food Pantry:

“In accordance with Federal Law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability.”

To file a complaint for discrimination, write to:

**USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W. Stop 9410
Washington, DC 20250-9410**

To file a complaint of discrimination, call toll-free:

**866.632.9992 (English)
800.877.8339 (TDD)
866.377.8642 (English Federal-relay)
800.845.6136 ((Spanish Federal-relay) ***

“USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.”

What did the SCS food pantry do to help fight hunger?

- Partnered with United Way of Southington to provide funding for purchasing food from Foodshare for the food pantry.
- Partnered with the Salvation Army and Foodshare.
- SCS provided bread, pastry, fresh produce, and dairy items as often as daily to residents in need. Residents can pick up their full food package, which includes meat and personal hygiene products, weekly. A family of five that comes in twice a week for bread, pastry, and dairy products and once a week for food saves approximately \$10,000 annually.
- On the fourth Tuesday of every month, our office is a satellite location for the WIC (Women, Infants & Children) Program (www.wicprograms.org) for Southington residents. WIC consumers are referred to our office by WIC staff when needed, and we also refer to the WIC Program. WIC provides supplemental foods, healthcare referrals, and nutrition education to income-eligible pregnant, breastfeeding, and postpartum women, and to infants and children up to age five who are found to be at nutritional risk. WIC eligible foods are:
 1. Infant cereal, fruits, vegetables, meat, and formula
 2. Cereal, milk, cheese, tofu, soy-based beverage, legumes, peanut butter, fruits, vegetables, canned fish, whole wheat bread, juice, eggs, and yogurt.
- SCS partnered with Foodshare along with the following stores or organizations for food:

Aldi
Aqua Turf
Back Nine
BJ's Wholesale Club
Bozzuto's, Inc.
Carter Cares
Cheshire Food Pantry
Fancy Bagels
Foodology
Gulf Shrimp
KBF5
Kettle Bagels

Panera
Pepper Pot
Price Chopper
Rogers Orchards
Sassy Mama's Sweets
Shop Rite
Smokin' with Chris
Stop & Shop
T A Travel Center
Target - New Britain
Target - Southington

- Delivered weekly food packages to residents who are unable to get to our office.
- Continued to educate the public on the needs in Southington.

How many residents used the food pantry fiscal year 2019/2020?

Month	Meals Per Month	Unduplicated Number of Families	Unduplicated Household Members	Pounds of Food Purchased or Donated
Jul-19	59,421	540	1,091	20,867
Aug-19	59,190	459	1,050	13,926
Sep-19	54,142	408	654	24,132
Oct-19	58,435	649	1,406	15,936
Nov-19	61,573	473	1,051	20,234
Dec-19	84,207	528	1,121	14,175
Jan-20	96,480	433	972	11,009
Feb-20	71,760	393	821	13,914
Mar-20	80,100	405	839	22,954
Apr-20	34,920	314	693	14,261
May-20	76,140	289	638	12,097
Jun-20	60,060	308	652	8,187
Total	796,428	5,199	10,988	191,692
Average	66,369	433	916	15,974

Using Foodshare’s formula, SCS distributed 716,335 meals during the last fiscal year. This averaged out to 59,695 meals per month and includes only the weekly food packages. Foodshare provides the formula to calculate the number of meals per pound of food.

Qualified residents can come to SCS for bread, pastry, and dairy products every day, and these numbers are not included in the meal count. Additionally, SCS distributed 1,319 family holiday meals (2,813 individuals) between Thanksgiving and Christmas that are also not included in the meal count.

Eligibility for the Food Pantry:

Southington residents who receive groceries are required to meet financial guidelines set by Foodshare yearly.

Pantry Hours:

The pantry is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Hours are extended on an individual basis for those who cannot come in during normal business hours, and weekly deliveries are made to those families that cannot get to the pantry.

Foodshare:

Agency: Agency Refs 20215							
Agency Ref	Agency Name	Period 1 1/1/2019 To 12/31/2019			Period 2 1/1/2020 To 7/30/2020		
		Qty	Pounds	Dollars	Qty	Pounds	Dollars
20215	S/A Southington Community Services						
A TEFAP		2,332	57,721	\$ 0.00	884	19,950	\$ 0.00
C Buying Club		401	6,519	\$3,978.88	125	2,705	\$1,705.65
E Purchased		0	0	\$ 0.00	687	10,877	\$ 0.00
F CT-NAP		1,071	19,920	\$1,020.75	731	10,278	\$439.15
H FEMA		553	8,735	\$873.50	12	114	\$11.40
I Salvage		41,666	54,475	\$1,863.37	19,926	25,447	\$983.96
K Donated		97,673	130,001	\$5,599.38	41,979	59,776	\$3,013.59
N Produce		67,512	67,512	\$ 0.00	23,548	23,548	\$ 0.00
N Produce-VAP		0	0	\$ 0.00	10	378	\$ 0.00
P Meat the Need		22,596	84,946	\$10,965.00	11,054	32,050	\$3,692.40
Q Equipment		7	0	\$47.94	0	0	\$ 0.00
S COVID Supplies		0	0	\$ 0.00	56	50	\$ 0.00
U CFAP		0	0	\$ 0.00	38	750	\$ 0.00
V FFCRA		0	0	\$ 0.00	2	48	\$ 0.00
W CARES		0	0	\$ 0.00	35	1,097	\$ 0.00
Totals:		233,811	429,829	\$24,348.82	99,087	187,068	\$9,846.15
Report Totals:		233,811	429,829	\$24,348.82	99,087	187,068	\$9,846.15

FOODSHARE

MONITORING REVIEW

PASS ACCOUNT ON HOLD

PASS WITH ACTION STEPS REQUIRED

6/6/2019

DATE OF MONITORING ACTION DEADLINE

#20215

AGENCY ID#

S/A Southington Community Services

AGENCY NAME

Janet Mellon

AGENCY CONTACT

DRY STORAGE

- CLEANLINESS: ACTION NEEDED OKAY
- RESTRICTED TO AUTHORIZED INDIVIDUALS: ACTION NEEDED OKAY
- FOOD RAISED AT LEAST 6 INCHES OFF FLOOR: ACTION NEEDED OKAY
- FOOD STORED AWAY FROM HEAT SOURCES: ACTION NEEDED OKAY
- FOOD AND TOXIC ITEMS STORED SEPARATELY: ACTION NEEDED OKAY
- SYSTEM IN PLACE FOR USING OLDER PRODUCT FIRST: ACTION NEEDED OKAY
- EVIDENCE OF EXCESSIVE MOISTURE OR HUMIDITY: ACTION NEEDED OKAY
- EVIDENCE OF INSECTS OR VERMIN AND LACK OF TREATMENT PLAN: ACTION NEEDED OKAY

COLD STORAGE

N/A

- CLEANLINESS: ACTION NEEDED OKAY
- RESTRICTED TO AUTHORIZED INDIVIDUALS: ACTION NEEDED OKAY
- ALL TEMPERATURES WITHIN APPROPRIATE RANGES: ACTION NEEDED OKAY
- ALL TEMPERATURES RECORDED AT LEAST ONCE WEEKLY: ACTION NEEDED OKAY

RECORD KEEPING & TRAINING

- CHECKING PRODUCT RECALL SOURCES REGULARLY: ACTION NEEDED OKAY
- TRACKING ATTENDANCE/DISTRIBUTION NUMBERS: N/A ACTION NEEDED OKAY
- FOOD BANK INVOICES ON FILE FOR AT LEAST ONE YEAR: N/A ACTION NEEDED OKAY
- FOOD SAFETY COMPLETED: ACTION NEEDED OKAY
- AGENCY ORIENTATION NEEDED FOR APPLICABLE STAFF/VOLUNTEERS: ACTION NEEDED OKAY

DOCUMENTS NEEDED (ACCOUNT ON HOLD IF NOT RECEIVED WITHIN ONE MONTH)

- 501(c)(3) DETERMINATION LETTER QFO CERTIFICATION KITCHEN LICENSE
 PARTNER AGENCY AGREEMENT LIABILITY RELEASE ADDENDUM TO AGREEMENT

COMMENTS:

Janet, thank you for taking the time to meet with me about the program. Everything truly looks amazing! I'm so thrilled to see that the program received new cold storage units. Additionally, I'm always amazed about how much the program does for the community. I will also attached a link to our basic food safety test for pantries just in case you wanted additional staff trained. I also want to take this time to thank you and all the volunteers for their ongoing dedication to the community! Best, Vinh.

Top twenty (20) food donors for the last fiscal year are listed below: 2019-2020

Donor	Pounds
Individuals	35,647.40
BJ's	20,680.00
Target-Southington	19,690.00
Price Chopper	16,727.00
Shop Rite	13,503.00
Target-New Britain	7,839.00
Reverse Solutions	7,501.00
Cheshire Food Pantry	7,241.00
Truck Stop	5,749.00
Salvatore, Dave	5,335.00
Carter Cares	5,324.00
Bozzuto's	4,785.00
Kettle Bagels	4,597.00
Stop & Shop	4,362.00
Aldi	4,090.00
St. Dominic	3,971.00
Bread For Life	3,205.00
Southington Rotary	3,044.00
Panera	3,009.00
Plantsville Engine Company 2	2,313.00

School Programs in 2019:

- **Smart Start:** This program provides Southington students entering grades K–12 with new backpacks filled with needed supplies. This program was once again successfully coordinated by the Giving Back Girls and sponsored by the Arc of Southington. Two hundred and twelve Southington families applied for the Back-to-School Program (302 students) to receive backpacks filled with new school supplies and a \$20 gift card to be used for additional school supplies. The average package costs \$100, bringing the total cost to \$30,200.
- **Summer School Classes for 2019:** SCS paid for 10 Southington students to attend required summer classes at the cost of \$2,950.
- **DePaolo Middle School Community Service Club:** An after-school activity for students to assist SCS in projects.
- **Summer School Club:** Sponsored by SCS, this club promotes students to do service to their community.
- SCS continued to be a site for Southington students to do their community services hours.

Income Tax Assistance:

Human Resources Agency of New Britain, Inc. (HRA) set up a satellite office on Monday mornings to assist residents in filling out their tax forms. This year 34 tax returns were completed before we had to close this service due to COVID-19.

Energy Assistance:

Another important service that SCS handles is the Energy Assistance Program. Because of the high cost of home heating, this program is meeting a critical need for Southington residents. A combination of local, state, and federal dollars comprise the resources used to help families.

- 336 applications were taken at SCS, and the total benefits to our Southington residents was \$207,458.

Housing:

- **Eviction/Foreclosure:** SCS worked in partnership with the Town Manager on local evictions to make sure the Fair Housing policy and procedures are followed. More importantly, SCS continued to work to prevent the eviction or foreclosure of Southington residents.
- The Salvation Army and the United Way of Southington provide funds to assist in our eviction program.
- The Southington Clergy Association, through the Southington Manna Fund, assisted our office in meeting unusual housing needs in town through their donations.
- Partnered with the United Methodist Action Reach-Out Mission for the third year to do light repairs and indoor painting for several homes in Southington at no cost to the resident.

Fair Housing Training and Outreach:

- **July, 2019:** Distributed Farmer Market Vouchers, took applications for the holidays, and provided a brief explanation of Fair Housing and programs available through Southington Community Services to residents of the Southington Housing Authority, Flanders West, Winter Grove, and Wheeler Village.
- **February 23, 2020:** SCS paid for a booth at the Healthy Family Fun Fest, which is sponsored by Hartford HealthCare and The Y. Approximately 3,000 people came to the event. Our booth was on Fair Housing. We had several pamphlets on Fair Housing along with a display showing housing discrimination is illegal in Connecticut. Luz Morales from the Housing Discrimination Unit from The Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities and Shirley from 211 were part of our booth and answered any questions regarding housing or 211 referrals.
- **June, 2019:** I brought information bags to the senior/disabled housing facilities. In each bag was a poster on fair housing, fair housing information, masks and hand sanitizers for their tenants.
- **July 1, 2019–June 30, 2020:** Dues paying member of Fair Housing Association of Connecticut (FHACTION).
- **July 1, 2019–June 30, 2020:** Our office received one fair housing complaint. We referred her to the Connecticut Fair Housing office and worked with them for this resident. In the end the resident was able to sign the renewal lease and we paid one month's rent.

Holidays in Southington:

Below is a chart showing how many Southington families and individuals took part in our holiday programs:

Program	Families	Individuals
Back to School	212	302
Thanksgiving Meals	624	1,324
Christmas Meals	662	1,394
Children's Shopping Party*	112	283
Family Holiday Gathering***	110	200
Holiday Presents	684	1,467
Easter	112	242

*Children's Shopping Party is a party where children are able to pick out gifts for their parents or grandparents while enjoying a meal together, making crafts, and seeing Santa. This event is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Southington, Grace United Methodist Church, Spring Lake Village, and Southington Community Services.

**Shop with a Cop was hosted by the Southington Target store and several local police departments. Around 80 police officers and 80 children participated in this event. SCS was able to bring 11 children (6 boys and 5 girls) to this event. Each officer paired with a child, enjoyed dinner, and then headed off to Target in Southington where the officers took the kids shopping. It was a very heartwarming night, complete with a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Claus.

***Family Holiday Gathering is a holiday party that includes a meal, games, crafts, and a visit from Santa at the Aqua Turf Club. Two hundred children and their families enjoyed this event, which is sponsored annually by the Calvanese Foundation and Realty 3 Carroll & Agostini.

Robin Taillie and the Salvation Army volunteers worked on the Salvation Army bell ringing event this year and raised \$16,042. These funds, along with the money donated through the United Way of Southington, paid for the food in the food pantry, along with assistance in the holiday programs, energy, and emergency needs for Southington residents.

The Army National Guard provided space for the Thanksgiving food basket distribution and the setup and distribution of holiday gifts.

Civic Groups/Clubs/Businesses:

The following organizations help our office make a difference in the lives of our neighbors:

AARP	The Orchards
American Legion Auxiliary Kiltonic Unit 72	Partyka Lawncare & Landscaping
Apple Valley Chiropractic	Polish Falcons Club 307
Board of Education	Putting on the Ritz
Boy Scouts of America	Raya Clinic
Bristol Hospital	Reverse Solutions
Carter Cares	Rogers Orchards
Conveyco	Rotary Club of Southington
Day's Inn	Salvation Army
Giving Back Girls	Saucier Mechanical Services
Hawk's Landing	Southington Elks Lodge #1669
Interact Club	Southington Jaycees
J & J Custom Automotive	Southington Police Department
Jaycees of Southington	Southington Public Library
Jensen Community Group	Southington Soccer League
Joe and Kay Calvanese Foundation	Spring Lake Village Association
Just for You Gifts	UNICO Club of Southington
Key Club	United Way of Southington
Kiwanis Club	Uptown Consignment
Knights of Columbus Isabella Assembly 122	Valentine the Clown
Liberty Bank	Villari's Martial Arts
Lions Club of Southington	Webster Bank
Little Princesses	Westerly Little League
Mohawk	Worldwide Wine & Spirit
Mulberry Gardens	

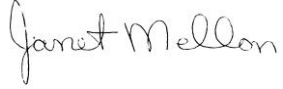
Camp Programs:

The Salvation Army Camp (CONNRI): CONNRI Lodge is located in Ashford, CT. The camp is situated on 272 acres of rolling hills, overlooking a 50-acre lake. Campers enjoy a wide variety of activities including, but not limited to: socialization and interaction, swimming, hiking, fishing, kayaking, baseball, softball, basketball, volleyball, nature studies, arts & crafts, low ropes, paddle boats, and much more. The camp is accredited by the American Camping Association, the State of Connecticut, and The Salvation Army. The cost of both summer camps was \$12,040.

- The American Legion Auxiliary Kiltonic Unit 72 of Southington sponsored children that attended Camp CONNRI (a five-day overnight children's camp) in Ashford, CT.
- Southington Community Services and The Salvation Army sponsored senior citizens for a five-day, four-night trip.

Southington Parks and Recreation Day Camp: Working with Southington Parks and Recreation, Southington Community Services qualified Southington children for a discount at the summer camp.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janet Mellon".

Janet Mellon
Director of Southington Community Services