



Wrapping up the 2017 Season of Giving

The 2017 Season of Giving has come to a close and the kindness and generosity of the Somers community was truly amazing to see. We are excited to share with you the success of this year's campaign. On behalf of the Town of Somers Human Services Department and the residents we serve, we would like to extend our most sincere gratitude to all who contributed to this year's Season of Giving.

♥ SALVATION ARMY KETTLE CAMPAIGN



The 2017 Salvation Army Kettle Campaign stationed outside of the Dunkin' Donuts in Somers ran from December 11th thru December 15th from 7:30am-10:30am each day. We were also able to ring the bell for an additional 90 minutes outside of the Country Diner in Enfield on Sunday, December 17th. A special thank you to all 12 of our volunteers, including First Selectman Bud Knorr and State Representative Kurt Vail, for making this possible. Despite the cold and snowy weather, we had a very successful campaign and raised **\$1007.96** for our service unit! We extend our sincere appreciation to Dunkin' Donuts and to the Country Diner for being so accommodating. 90% of funds raised stay in our service unit and can be used towards assisting low income residents with rent, utilities, summer camp, back-to-school supplies, and more.

♥ ADOPT-A-CHILD HOLIDAY PROGRAM

The 2017 Adopt-a-Child Holiday Program provided gifts for **50 children from 22 families** as a result of the generosity of 32 donors; a combination of private residents, civic organizations, and local faith based organizations.

♥ TOWN OF SOMERS EMERGENCY FUND

Perhaps the greatest goal of the Season of Giving Campaign is raising awareness. Since the implementation of the Season of Giving in 2016, the community has become much more aware of the Town of Somers Emergency Fund, it's purpose, and the process by which low-income families in Somers apply for and utilize these funds. As a result, donations from private residents, civic and faith based organizations to the Emergency Fund totaled **\$2,965.00** during this Season of Giving ensuring that we can continue to help meet the basic needs of struggling families in Somers.

♥ MEALS ON WHEELS

The Season of Giving Campaign worked to inform the community about the Town of Somers Meals on Wheels (MOW) Program. Many residents were unaware of the program's existence or its uniqueness in that it is run independently of any state or federal assistance. As a result of this campaign, **\$3,365.00** in contributions were made to MOW greatly increasing the long term sustainability of this extremely important program.

♥ SHOP WITH A COP

The Town of Somers Human Services Department was thrilled to once again have been selected to participate in the REACH Foundation's Shop With A Cop Program. **Five children from Somers** were able to take part in this program created to strengthen relationships between youth and law enforcement in their communities while providing a special holiday experience.



♥ STUFF-A-CRUISER

Stuff-a-Cruiser exemplifies collaboration at its best. The event is coordinated by the Somers Women's Club. Donations are collected and stored at the Resident Trooper's Office. The Town of Somers Public Works Department transports and unloads the collection at the Somers Senior Center and the Town of Somers Human Services Department coordinates the distribution. This year, the collection provided toys for **80 children from 32 families in Somers**. The owner of the Dunkin Donuts in Somers even donated a \$1,000 check to the Somers Women's Club to purchase toys for the drive. Half of this money was used for gift cards to allow older children make their own selections, as many of the toys collected are geared towards younger children. Teamwork is the key to the success of the Stuff-a-Cruiser program!

