



Activity Highlight "St. Patrick's Day Curbside Grab & Go"

Submitted by Sullivan Senior Center (Connecticut)



A year ago, the Sullivan Senior Center in Torrington, CT officially closed its congregate meal program due to the pandemic. It was then that they headed to the Curbside Grab-and-Go model, and for the past year have looked forward to St. Patrick's Day 2021, hoping to be back inside together.

Although saddened to be outside and distanced yet again, they know the

most important part is continuing to serve high-quality meals safely, which they did – in festive style!

During the curbside event, the Senior Center's team of 10 played Irish music for people waiting in line to receive their traditional corned beef and cabbage dinners.



The event served **255** seniors at the curb and **485** home-delivered dinners.



In addition to what the Center calls the "never-say-no" effort of staff and outside-the-box thinking, they say the event's success is due to strong partnership and communication. A local adult living facility made a special dessert, and a local nonprofit made individual St. Patrick's Day cards for the seniors. Using donated funds, the Center was also able to produce favors for each attendee to discover when they got home.

The Sullivan Senior Center is proud of the community effort – and the connections and smiles that resulted from this event. The team encourages all programs to use local partnerships and creativity to take meals to the next level.

