Introduced by Council Member Boylan and Co-Sponsored by Council Members Clark-Murray, Peluso and Carlucci and amended by the Neighborhoods, Community Services, Public Health and Safety Committee:

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## ORDINANCE 2023-803-E

AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$1,000,000 FROM A DESIGNATED SPECIAL COUNCIL CONTINGENCY TO THE SUBSIDIES AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONS ACCOUNT TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO UNITED WAY OF NORTHEAST FLORIDA, INC. ("UNITED WAY") FOR THE EVICTION DIVERSION PROGRAM DESCRIBED HEREIN; PROVIDING FOR CARRYOVER OF FUNDS TO FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025; INVOKING THE EXEMPTION IN SECTION 126.107(G) (EXEMPTIONS), PART 1 (GENERAL REGULATIONS), CHAPTER 126 (PROCUREMENT CODE), ORDINANCE CODE, TO ALLOW FOR A DIRECT CONTRACT WITH UNITED WAY; WAIVING SECTION 118.107 (NONPROFITS TO RECEIVE FUNDING THROUGH A COMPETITIVE EVALUATED AWARD PROCESS), PART 1 (GENERAL PROVISIONS), CHAPTER 118 (CITY GRANTS), ORDINANCE CODE, TO ALLOW FOR A DIRECT CONTRACT WITH UNITED WAY; APPROVING, AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, OR HER DESIGNEE, AND THE CORPORATION SECRETARY TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER ON BEHALF OF THE CITY AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE AND UNITED WAY OF NORTHEAST FLORIDA, INC. FOR THE EVICTION DIVERSION PROGRAM; PROVIDING FOR OVERSIGHT BY THE GRANTS AND CONTRACTS COMPLIANCE DIVISION OF THE FINANCE

AND ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

Appropriation. For the 2023-2024 fiscal year, Section 1. within the City's budget, there is hereby appropriated the indicated sum(s) from the account(s) listed in subsection (a) to the account(s) listed in subsection (b):

(The account information is attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** and incorporated herein by this reference)

Appropriated from: (a)

See Exhibit 1

\$1,000,000

(b) Appropriated to:

See Exhibit 1

\$1,000,000

(c) Explanation of Appropriation:

The funding above is an appropriation of \$1,000,000 from a Designated Special Council Contingency account to the Subsidies and Contributions to Private Organizations account to provide funding to United Way of Northeast Florida, Inc. ("United Way") for the Eviction Diversion Program (the "Program").

Purpose. The purpose of the appropriation in Section 2. Section 1 is to provide funding from the City of Jacksonville to United Way for eviction diversion services to eligible households in Duval County. United Way, in coordination with Jewish Family and Community Services, Jacksonville Area Legal Aid and the Fourth Judicial Circuit Court, will administer the Program and will serve as a primary referral source for families facing eviction. United Way will also coordinate with Program partners and other community providers to recruit landlords to reach out proactively when they have families facing eviction due to temporary loss of income or a

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temporary increase in expenses. United Way will also monitor the impact and success of the Program and provide reports regarding same to the City Council.

An integral part of the Program will entail employing two dedicated facilitators (funded through other program dollars) that will work closely with both landlords and the Courts to quickly identify eviction cases, both pre-suit and after litigation has been filed, that meet the eligibility criteria to receive assistance as outlined in Revised Exhibit 2, labeled as as "Revised Exhibit 2, Rev Term Sheet, December 4, 2023 - NCSPHS", attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference. The Program will provide assistance to eligible households in Duval County who are delinquent of payment of rent, certain utilities and/or home energy costs due on or after November 1, 2023, resulting in the potential for nonpayment notice and filing of an eviction in Duval County. In addition to the other criteria outlined in Revised Exhibit 2, qualified households must show proof that the total household income is equal to or below the ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) threshold based on household composition. Finally, to receive funds through the Program the recipient(s) must also clearly demonstrate their ability to financially remain self-sufficient after eviction diversion funds are disbursed.

Section 3. Carryover. The funds appropriated by this Ordinance shall not lapse but shall carryover to fiscal year 2024-2025.

Section 4. Invoking the Exemption in Section 126.107(g), Ordinance Code. The City is hereby authorized to directly procure the professional services of United Way of Northeast Florida, Inc. for the provision of eviction diversion services. Pursuant to Section 126.107(g) (Exemptions), Part 1 (General Regulations), Chapter 126 (Procurement Code), Ordinance Code, such procurement is exempted from

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competitive solicitation because the supplies or services are to be provided by those specifically prescribed within authorizing legislation that appropriates the same. With the exception of the foregoing, all other provisions of Chapter 126, Ordinance Code, shall remain in full force and effect.

Waiver of Section 118.107, Ordinance Code. Section 5. provisions of Section 118.107 (Nonprofits to receive funding through a competitive evaluated award process), Part 1 (General Provisions), Chapter 118 (City Grants), Ordinance Code, are hereby waived to allow for a direct contract with United Way of Northeast Florida, Inc. United Way is uniquely situated to provide the services described herein, as a significant number of calls (approximately 65,000) received through United Way's 2-1-1 help line are from residents seeking rent and utility assistance. In addition, United Way previously worked with the City to distribute federal emergency rent and utility assistance dollars to qualified households in Duval County. United Way also has existing partnerships with other providers in Duval County who can assist in ensuring these dollars are distributed efficiently and to those most in need.

Section 6. Approval and Authorization to Execute. There is hereby approved, and the Mayor, or her designee, and the Corporation Secretary are hereby authorized to execute and deliver on behalf of the City an agreement with United Way of Northeast Florida, Inc. in an amount not-to-exceed \$1,000,000, subject to the Scope of Services and Budget more particularly described in Revised Exhibit 2, for a term commencing on January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024, and all other contracts and documents, including extensions, renewals and amendments to the agreement, and to otherwise take all action necessary to effectuate the intent of this Ordinance, subject to appropriate legal review and approval by the General Counsel, or his her designee, and the City's Risk Management Division for

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appropriate insurance and indemnification requirements in accordance with Section 128.601, Ordinance Code.

Section 7. Oversight Department. The Grants Contract Compliance Division of the Finance and Administration Department shall oversee the project described herein.

Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become Section 8. effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective without the Mayor's signature.

/s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

Office of General Counsel

Legislation Prepared By: Mary E. Staffopoulos

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Form Approved: