

CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY



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Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2021-719

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council President at the request of the Mayor

Date of Introduction: September 28, 2021

Committee(s) of Reference: NCSPHS, F

Date of Analysis: September 29, 2021

Type of Action: Appropriation, position authorization and designation of oversight agency

Bill Summary: This bill is an appropriation of \$324,509 - \$260,000 in grant funds from AmeriCorps Seniors and an additional appropriation of \$64,509 from the City – for the Duval County Senior Companion Program. The Grant period is July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2024. The Clerical Support Aide III position is authorized. The Senior Services Division of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services will administer the grant and provide oversight.

Background Information: The purpose of this legislation is to fund the Duval County Senior Companion Program, which provides aid and friendship to older adults who have difficulty with daily living tasks by connecting eligible seniors with volunteers. Eligible seniors are those aged 60 years and older who have one or more physical, emotional, or mental health limitations and who need assistance to achieve and maintain a higher level of independent living. Program volunteers will visit the seniors 3 to 4 days a week, for a minimum of 4 hours, to offer companionship and assistance and a broader opportunity for social networking. The Grant and matching funds will be used for staff salary and benefits, volunteer stipends, meals and mileage, volunteer recognition events, supplies, training and travel.

Policy Impact Area: Duval County Senior Companion Program

Fiscal Impact: Appropriation of \$324,509 as initiated by B.T. 21-114

Analyst: Hampsey