



Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND
CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Sara L. Hensley

SUBJECT: CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL
SERVICE GRANT APPLICATION

DATE: 03-28-05

Approved

Date

4.4.05

Council District: Citywide
SNI: N/A

RECOMMENDATION

1. Adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit a renewal application to the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) for a one-year Federal grant, not to exceed \$128,307 for the Senior Companion Program (SCP); and
2. Authorize the City Manager to accept grant funds and to negotiate and execute all agreements if grant is awarded.

BACKGROUND

The CNCS was established when President Clinton signed the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993. CNCS organizes its federal program into three streams of service: The National Senior Service Corps, Learn and Serve America and AmeriCorps. The National Senior Corps brings the skills, energy and creativity of half a million older Americans to bear on important community problems through its three programs: Foster Grandparent Program, Senior Companion Program and the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program.

SCP is currently in its 19th program year with the City of San José. Administered through the Department of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services (PRNS), this program provides volunteer opportunities for persons 60 years of age and older. SCP will provide in-home assistance and companionship to English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Tagalog, Japanese and Russian speaking frail seniors residing in the Greater San Jose Area. These homebound seniors may have physical, cognitive or emotional impairments. The goal is to improve the quality of life for these homebound seniors and promote independent living through personal care, nutrition, social and recreational activities, home management,

information and advocacy, and respite to family members or caregivers who find it difficult to provide the level of support needed to prevent institutionalization.

On June 10, 2003, the City Council authorized the City Manager to apply to the federal government for a three-year continuation grant not to exceed \$ 128,307 each year for the 19th year (2003-2006) of the Senior Companion Program (SCP). The continuation process for the third year of this multi-year SCP grant requires a new budget justification for 2005-2006.

ANALYSIS

PRNS estimated Fiscal Year 2005-2006 SCP budget is \$226,702. SCP will receive \$128,307 from CNCS through this grant. The amount of matching City funds provided on an annual basis is \$98,395. Community based organizations that are currently serving as volunteer stations are:

- Asian American Community for Involvement (for Mandarin and Cantonese speaking frail homebound seniors)
- Catholic Charities Day Break II Asian Elder Respite and Caregiver Support Services (for Vietnamese, Mandarin and Chinese speaking frail seniors and to provide respite to their caregivers from the stressful caregiving tasks)
- Catholic Charities John XXIII Neighborhood Center (for Vietnamese speaking frail homebound seniors)
- Jewish Family Services of Silicon Valley (for Russian and Bosnian speaking frail homebound seniors)
- Korean American Community Services (for Korean speaking frail homebound seniors)
- Live Oak Adult Day Services (for English speaking frail seniors and to provide respite to their caregivers from the stressful caregiving tasks)
- Mexican American Community Services Agency (for Spanish speaking frail seniors and to provide respite to their caregivers from the stressful caregiving tasks)

SCP staff recruits English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese, Korean, Tagalog, Russian, or Portuguese speaking independent seniors age 60 or over and trains them as Senior Companions. After successfully completing the training program, the seniors are then deployed to a volunteer station under the supervision of the volunteer station supervisor. The grant pays a stipend and expense reimbursement for the senior companions under federal rules. The City provides a staffing match to administer the program as part of its budget.

OUTCOME

This total budget will provide 34,320 service hours to 80 frail seniors and their families for the period July 01, 2005 to June 30, 2006.

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PUBLIC OUTREACH

An integral part of the program is on-going recruitment of new volunteers, as well as establishing new volunteer stations Citywide.

COORDINATION

This memorandum has been coordinated with the City Attorney's Office and the City Manager's Budget Office.

COST IMPLICATIONS

Funds for the SCP program are included in the FY 2004-2005 Adopted Operating Budget and are part of the department's on-going Base Budget.

CEQA

Not a project.



SARA L. HENSLEY
Director of Parks, Recreation and
Neighborhood Services