

CITY of ALBUQUERQUE

TWENTY FOURTH COUNCIL

COUNCIL BILL NO. M-20-5 ENACTMENT NO. _____

SPONSORED BY: Cynthia D. Borrego, Klarissa J. Peña

1 MEMORIAL
2 RECOGNIZING THE SENIOR CORP VOLUNTEERS COMPOSED OF FOSTER
3 GRANDPARENTS, SENIOR COMPANIONS AND RETIRED AND SENIOR
4 VOLUNTEER PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS FOR THEIR EXEMPLARY SERVICE
5 DURING THE TIME OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC TO THE SENIOR CITIZEN
6 POPULATION OF THE CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE.

7 WHEREAS, The City of Albuquerque Department of Senior Affairs is
8 bolstered from the efforts of nearly 900 Senior Corp Volunteers; and

9 WHEREAS, Prior to the pandemic, the Senior Corp of Volunteers were
10 recorded to provide a 348% return on investment contributing approximately
11 214,000 total hours annually; and

12 WHEREAS, The Community Engagement Management Team not only
13 oversees the Senior Corp Programs federal grant requirements, but also helps
14 the City to expand its volunteer base by tapping into volunteers of all ages;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, The Department of Senior Affairs anticipates that focused
17 recruitment and management strategies to be conducted by a Community
18 Engagement Manager proposed in the City of Albuquerque Fiscal Year 2021
19 Budget will increase Department volunteer numbers by an additional 300 or
20 more; and

21 WHEREAS, Additional volunteers are especially needed in areas such as
22 the City's Home Chore program, where volunteer groups provide outside yard
23 services for seniors on an on-going basis; and

24 WHEREAS, Within one week of the first Corona Virus case reported in New
25 Mexico, The Department of Senior Affairs put in place multiple new support
26 systems such as wellness checks, outside/contactless services (like taxes),

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1 securing donations and packaging food boxes in addition to erecting five
2 pickup meal sites and expanding emergency home delivered meals, while
3 continuing its core services (transportation, senior information line, and case
4 management); and

5 WHEREAS, Throughout the pandemic, volunteers have been critical to
6 helping the Department of Senior Affairs provide services —such as helping
7 pass out food at the City’s distribution sites, manning other closed centers to
8 help answer questions and provide support to seniors, and helping the
9 Department package bulk food packaged into 2,100 food boxes; and

10 WHEREAS, Food production has more than doubled during the COVID-
11 19 epidemic, with more than double the amount of home delivered meals and
12 nearly double the number of meals claimed at the City’s pick up and go sites.
13 Volunteers are critical in providing support for the efforts of the Senior Affairs
14 Department and in meeting the 137% year-over-year increase in demand
15 during the pandemic; and

16 WHEREAS, Many individual volunteers and groups are to thank for
17 expanding the City of Albuquerque’s Senior Affairs Department’s capacities to
18 provide for the City’s Senior populations during this challenging time
19 including: The Fresquez Companies, Calvary Church, Sagebrush Church, the
20 New Mexico Prays Group, UNM Nursing students, and many more, as well as
21 food donations from The Range Café and McDonalds and hygienic supply
22 donations from Roses Paper and Western Sky.

23 BE IT MEMORIALIZED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
24 CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE that The City of Albuquerque is extremely grateful
25 for the extensive efforts and contributions of the Senior Volunteer Corp for
26 their extraordinary efforts in supporting efforts to provide meals to
27 Albuquerque’s seniors during the COVID-19 epidemic, in addition to their
28 routine contributions to the welfare and sustenance of Albuquerque’s Seniors,
29 and that the City of Albuquerque is receptive to ways it can support the
30 Senior Affairs Department in its efforts to build and nurture the Senior
31 Volunteer Corp.