

Senior Companions:

- are over 55 years of age and income eligible*
- are not part of the regular work force
- are willing to accept supervision and work under the policies and guidelines of the program
- agree to a level II criminal background check
- have a valid driver's license and proof of vehicle insurance
- complete 40 hours of pre-service training
- attend monthly training

Senior Companions offer older adults contact with the world outside of their homes and make their lives less lonely. Along the way, Senior Companions find out that few things feel as good as knowing that you are needed.

Who are Senior Companions?

Senior Companions become part of a team of caregivers.

They are healthy older adults who help other adults live independently. Senior Companions make the lives of those they serve less lonely.



What benefits do Senior Companions receive?

- ★ Compensation to cover the cost of serving (averages over \$300 month!)
- ★ Pre-service and ongoing training
- ★ Annual physical examination
- ★ Supplemental accident and liability coverage
- ★ The joy of helping others

"I can't Volunteer, but how can I help?"

In July 2000 Citrus County Community Support Services Division was awarded a Senior Companion Program (SCP) grant from the Florida Department of Elder Affairs.

**In 2015 SCP volunteers
drove over
85,247 miles
providing much needed
services!**

Income eligible Senior Companions receive some compensation enabling them to serve with limited expenses.

Grant funds do not fully cover the high cost of mileage reimbursement in rural areas like Citrus County, therefore, tax deductible contributions for the Senior Companion Program may be sent to:

**Friends of the
Nature Coast Volunteer Center
P. O. Box 640683
Beverly Hills, FL 34464**
Please note SCP on your donation check.

Senior Companions provide assigned clients:

- ♥ Assistance with important daily activities
- ♥ Transportation to medical appointments
- ♥ Shopping opportunities and assistance with meal preparation
- ♥ A watchful eye to notice when extra care is necessary
- ♥ Encouragement to remain physically and mentally active
- ♥ Disaster preparedness information
- ♥ Assistance with letter writing and varied errands
- ♥ Community service information
- ♥ A friendship that can last a lifetime

Without the help of Senior Companions, many older adults would be unable to continue living at home and would require more expensive, less personal care.

The Nature Coast Volunteer Center is part of Citrus County Community Support Services. The Volunteer Center was established in the spring of 2000 as an umbrella organization to support volunteer activities throughout Citrus County.

Other NCVC programs include the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), Short & Sweet and the Homeland Security Volunteer Team.

The goal of the Nature Coast Volunteer Center is to expand services to citizens of Citrus County through the dedicated efforts of volunteers of all ages.

For information on the Senior Companion or other volunteer programs please contact:

Nature Coast Volunteer Center
2804 W. Marc Knighton Ct. Key #4
Lecanto, FL 34461-8334
(352) 527-5959
E-mail: ncvc@citrusbocc.com
www.naturecoastvolunteercenter.org

For persons with disabilities requiring reasonable accommodations please contact our office at 352-527-5959

Senior Companion program

of Citrus County



a program of the



Nature Coast Volunteer Center