



## Reduce Healthcare Costs through Senior Companion Services

**Senior Companion Program volunteers** support older adults with weekly visits so they can remain active, healthy and independent in their homes instead of having to move to more costly institutional settings. This statewide service also allows family members or professional caregivers to take a much needed break.

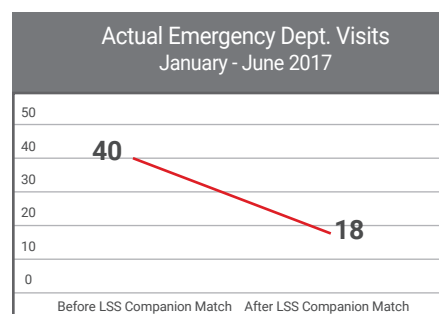
### 2018 Proposal

Increase funding for the Senior Companion Program through the Minnesota Board on Aging, so more seniors statewide may access Senior Companion services, reducing acute healthcare costs for care.

### Senior Companion Health Care Partnerships

We are continuing many innovative new partnerships with health care organizations across Minnesota. Through these partnerships, LSS Senior Companion volunteers are specially trained to work with patients who are identified by health systems as high utilizers of services — including emergency room and ambulance services.

### *Promising Results: North Memorial and Olmsted Participants*



### More About Senior Companions

In 2017, LSS served 2,100 older adults with 356 volunteers across MN. Senior Companions serve an average of two to four adult clients 15 - 40 hours per week. In last year's survey, 96% of individuals served reported reduced isolation and increased ability to get to medical appointments.

Senior Companion volunteers must pass state and federal background checks and are fingerprinted before pre-service orientation, ongoing training, supplemental insurance while on duty, and may qualify to earn a tax-free hourly stipend.

For questions, contact:

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