

Wilmington, Delaware
April 2, 2026

#XXXX

Sponsor:

**Council
Member
Darby**

WHEREAS, residents of the City face challenges related to housing stability, food insecurity, mental health access, substance use treatment, employment barriers, healthcare access, senior services, youth support, and other critical needs. The Wilmington City Council recognizes its responsibility to connect constituents with resources that enhance the quality of life, stability, and well-being of all residents; and

WHEREAS, individuals contacting City offices vary in levels of comprehension and autonomy, particularly seniors and those contending with mental health complications. In such instances, they often face multifaceted concerns. Existing constituent service employees are limited in their capacity to ensure that constituents with multifaceted issues receive a satisfactory resolution to their concerns or to spend substantial time engaging with programs and initiatives not directly provided by our City's departments. For example, a senior without family support may be experiencing a major home repair problem that substantially increased their utility bills and might require them to temporarily relocate while the issue is being addressed; and

WHEREAS, the process of identifying and accessing available local, state, federal, nonprofit, and faith-based assistance programs is often complex and difficult to navigate. A Social Service Navigator operating under the authority and direction of the City Council is a strategic investment in proactive community support that serves as a tool for preventing unnecessary social disruptions and traumas, especially for vulnerable individuals Council is responsible to represent.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that this Council recommends the appropriation of \$80,000 in funding in the Fiscal Year 2027 budget to commission a qualified Social Service Navigator on a part-time or consultant basis to lead the City of Wilmington’s efforts to connect constituents with support and resources that fit their needs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as the concerns of our City become increasingly complex, this Council deems it necessary and proper to adapt to addressing them effectively.

Passed by City Council,

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution recommends the appropriation of \$80,000 in funding in the Fiscal Year 2027 budget to commission a qualified Social Service Navigator on a part-time or consultant basis to lead the City of Wilmington’s efforts to connect constituents with support and resources that fit their needs.