

## **St. Pete Friends**

## **Strengthening Community Through Virtual Connections**

USF St. Petersburg is teaming up with the <u>Seniors In</u> <u>Service Tele-Pals Program</u> to provide virtual outreach between students and seniors in the surrounding St. Petersburg community who may be experiencing heightened isolation due to social distancing measures enacted in response to the Coronavirus pandemic. As part of these measures, students who lived and worked on campus have returned to their family homes and those in senior living communities have been forced to isolate from their loved ones. This initiative offers an opportunity for community members to connect when we need it most.

**For more information,** email Caryn Nesmith: <u>carynn@usf.edu</u> USF St. Petersburg, Regional Chancellor's Office

## How it works:

- Participating communities recruit members.
- Participants indicate how often they would like to be contacted and how (telephone or video chat via Skype, Facetime, Teams, or Zoom).
- USF St. Petersburg students who would like to participate fill out an application form and sign a confidentiality agreement.
- USF St. Petersburg matches students to community members, notifies all participants of the match and the connections begin.

## usfsp.edu/spfriends

