

# SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

## 2013 RSVP Competition

**Legal Applicant:** C.E.F.S. Economic Opportunity Corporation

**Applicant ID:** 13SR142702

**Project Name:** RSVP of Clay, Effingham, Moultrie & Shelby Counties

For the purpose of enhancing our programs by improving the quality and quantity of applications to the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), we are providing specific feedback regarding the strengths and weaknesses of this application. These comments are not meant to represent a comprehensive assessment; rather the analysis represents those elements that had the greatest bearing on the rating of the application. Please note that this feedback consists of summary comments from only the external reviewer on the blended panel. Comments are not representative of all of the information used in the final funding decision.

### External Reviewer's Summary Comments:

#### Strengths:

Plans are in place to announce volunteer opportunities through a quarterly newsletter to current volunteers.

50% of the unduplicated volunteers are included in outcome work plans. This is well above the 10% required.

Three staff positions are listed in the personnel section of the budget and all are described in the narrative. However, the applicant states a provision was granted for a Part Time Director by the Corporation but does not explain the need for the provision and/or the ruling that enables it to be carried on to this competitive grant.

The sources of non-federal funds are listed in the narrative and indicate that the applicant is confident of continuing to be able to secure these funds to meet the required non-federal match.

The applicant proposes a plan for the graduation of stations that no longer comply or meet the current program design by no longer renewing stations for service when no more volunteers are present at that station.

#### Weaknesses:

The applicant addresses needs for the economically struggling senior population with providing transportation and delivery of meals but did not mention veterans or military families as part of this group. Comment includes a large portion of information addressing Baby Boomers but does not include other focus groups such as the veterans or military families.

The applicant states the RSVP Specialist and Count Coordinator will communicate regularly to collaborate on events to recognize the volunteers but there is no mention as to what or if the recognition was held.

The budget shows a total amount for insurance and recognition but does not include a breakdown on costs. The absence of information on volunteer meals and volunteer travel budget amounts makes it difficult to assess the impact on volunteer recognition and retention.

In the narrative, the applicant stated that the volunteers will deliver meals and provide transportation to clients but no reimbursement amounts are listed in the budget. The Liability Insurance and Recognition costs do not have a cost breakdown addressed in the budget to support the narratives.