

# SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

## 2013 RSVP Competition

**Legal Applicant:** Brooke County Committee on Aging

**Applicant ID:** 13SR142722

**Project Name:** Brooke/Hancock/Ohio/Marshall RSVP

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:

The applicant's Primary Focus of this grant is community based mentoring/education, an unmet need in the community. The need for the activity is supported by hard, local data.

The applicant's need, the service to be conducted, and the National Performance Measures output and outcome are all connected. All are supported by compelling, convincing data.

The applicant's complete detail includes the infrastructure to manage RSVP volunteers, is provided showing that the process to be used to evaluate the National Performance Measures is in place.

The applicant has three annual activities planned for active military personnel and veterans to boost their morale. They are correspondence, recognition and token of appreciation.

The application describes a strong training plan. The plan includes giving volunteers an opportunity to participate in the semi-annual and monthly assistance calls provided by the Corporation for National and Community Service.

The applicant has a strong plan and infrastructure to retain and recognize RSVP volunteers is given. As a result of their plan, the number of volunteers has doubled since 2005.

The applicant has a strong plan for collecting and measuring National Performance Measures are in place. Volunteers assist in this process and the Director ensures that measures are met.

The applicant's plan described for managing the finances to ensure accountability and efficient use of available resources is appropriate.

The applicant's staff positions are clearly described.

The applicant exceeded its budgetary share. The applicant's plans for continuing in its fundraising efforts are described.

The applicant's budget provides for meals, insurance, volunteer recognition, and criminal history background checks. No funds are appropriated for volunteer transportation. It is unclear if funds for volunteer retentions were appropriated.

The application shows an extensive list of donors making the non-federal funds budgeted adequate.

**Weaknesses:**

The applicant does not provide a plan is given to recruit traditionally underrepresented persons or veterans.

The applicant has a weak plan is given for allowing volunteers to improve their skills. Volunteers are placed in positions based on their experience and prior occupations.

The applicant does not have a clear plan is given about how stations are reviewed to ensure compliance with RSVP regulations.

The applicant has an unclear description is given to address unmet needs outside the Primary Focus Area.

The applicant's Board of Directors and the advisory council are responsible for the oversight of the finances. Their roles are minimally described.

The applicant's description of the applicant's organizational infrastructure is adequate; however, there is no description of their tangible assets.

The applicant provides little or no information in the narrative describing the specific items in the budget section.