

SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

2013 RSVP Competition

Legal Applicant: Coles County Council on Aging

Applicant ID: 13SR142738

Project Name: RSVP of Coles County

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 community need description for the Primary Focus Area of Healthy Futures presents recent, reliable and well-sourced documentation.

The application demonstrates a plan and infrastructure to recruit a RSVP volunteer pool that includes the participation of two of the groups identified in the selection criteria, volunteers with disabilities as well as veterans.

The applicant proposes to have 52% of the unduplicated volunteers in the Primary Focus Area, which is well above the required 10%.

The application clearly delineates detailed plans and infrastructure for managing project resources, including financial assets, in an accountable and fully transparent manner that is informed by formal Financial Management Policies and Procedures.

The applicant clearly evidences sound organizational infrastructure regarding tangible assets, governance structure, community participation, robust financial management systems, and past experience managing federal grant funds, as evidenced by an absence of internal control or compliance findings.

The proposed budget's plans and infrastructure to provide applicable costs and reimbursable expenses to volunteers such as transportation, meals, and insurance as well as to provide for volunteer recognition is directly aligned with the project narrative and is reflective of a well-organized and focused endeavor.

Weaknesses: