

SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

2013 RSVP Competition

Legal Applicant: Summersville Baptist Church

Applicant ID: 13SR142794

Project Name: Fayette/Greenbrier/Nicholas/Webster 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 presents current and relevant poverty data from the U.S. Bureau of Census showing West Virginia ranking 12th out of 13 states with lowest per capita income of \$15,177. The 2010 State of America's Children Handbook lists West Virginia in the 10 states where child poverty rates are above 25%.

The applicant presents relevant information from KidsCount census data to support the premise that school performance and graduation rates are associated directly or indirectly with childhood poverty, further documenting community need in the Primary Focus Area of Education.

The applicant adequately describes a comprehensive recruitment plan which includes outreach postings to websites, newsletters, email, bulletin boards, news releases to the media, and direct mail. The applicant states that specific efforts will be made to recruit from diverse populations and abilities.

The applicant adequately describes plans for providing volunteer opportunities which have the potential to provide meaningful volunteer experiences in the performance measure service activities, including volunteer input and surveys to measure volunteer satisfaction.

The applicant presents a detailed volunteer recognition plan which includes recognition of volunteers efforts and activities on-going throughout the year, including an annual recognition event. The on-going recognition efforts will help to ensure retention of current volunteers.

The applicant's work plans commit 55% of Unduplicated Volunteers (UDV) to National Performance Measure outcome service activities. This is well above the 10% minimum.

The applicant commits 25% of UDV to service activities in work plans within the Primary Focus Area of Education

The applicant identifies local police as a source of in-kind training, in-kind space donation from the Lee Company, a local church for vehicle use, free radio advertisements, and sponsor in-kind for printing and technology support.

The applicant appropriately shows justification detail and cost calculation for volunteer expenses such as meals, travel, and training.

Weaknesses:

The applicant provides limited information about the survey instrument used to collect, measure, and document gains in social and/or emotional development as part of School Readiness Priority E23.

The applicant does not describe the instrument or performance measurement process to document output for Priority ED21.

The work plan activities in the Education Mentoring ED5 priority are not aligned to time lines for when students will achieve the improved academic performance measure outcome.

Detail is missing in the budget Selection Criteria of Cost Effectiveness and Budget Adequacy regarding the source providing 150 in-kind meals and the non-federal source of volunteer recognition cost supports.

Detail is missing as to the number of employees and date of hire to justify the \$400 cost listed for criminal background checks.