

SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

2013 RSVP Competition

Legal Applicant: Nortex Regional Planning Commission

Applicant ID: 13SR142975

Project Name: RSVP of North Texas

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 application sites rural isolation, high rate of poverty, and large number of seniors needing support as the reason for selecting the Primary Focus Area of Healthy Futures. The applicant used the report, *Blueprint to End Hunger*, to assist with identifying the unmet needs in the service area.

The applicant's non-federal funds include the grantee share of \$16,910.00 and local funds of \$8,647.00 for a total of \$25,557.00. The sponsor agency will seek additional funding support from the state and the Advisory Council will continue to explore and carry-out fund raising efforts to further supplement and sustain the non-federal resources.

The applicant's Council is diversified to reflect the community served by the program.

The application includes other unmet needs such as economic opportunity where annually 34 RSVP volunteers serve on the Adult Literacy Tutors and with education K-12 success, 15 RSVP mentors will be matched with 15 disadvantaged youth.

Weaknesses:

The applicant's RSVP has not tracked data on veterans in the past. However, to address this issue, a survey of workstations indicated that averages of 771 veterans are served on an annual basis.

There is no specific reference made in the proposal to reflect recruiting of minorities for the RSVP. The applicant does indicate that the Primary Focus Area of Healthy Futures and other focus areas will lead to the National Performance Measure outputs and outcomes. There is no clear connection demonstrated in this section of the proposal.

The applicant does not provide evidence of a robust financial system described in the proposal. The Nortex Regional Planning Commission has been in existence for 46 years and currently manages a budget of approximately \$10.8 million consisting of local, state and federal funds.