

SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

2013 RSVP Competition

Legal Applicant: Schuylkill County Office of Senior Services

Applicant ID: 13SR143457

Project Name: RSVP of Schuylkill 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 applicant indicates a broad-based recruitment plan which ensures a high level of diversity in the volunteer pool.

Plans for graduating volunteer stations include providing technical assistance, as needed, to those stations meeting local community needs and that will retain volunteers who do not wish to transition.

The applicant indicates that the sponsoring agency is very stable and has a strong history of managing services with quantifiable outcomes as mandated by the state.

The Advisory Council is strongly representative of the community and the geographic service area.

A significant amount is included for the annual volunteer recognition dinner and awards, although it is not mentioned in the narrative.

Weaknesses:

The applicant does not describe the exact nature of the duties of the volunteers as liaisons.

The applicant mentions service activities which will provide support for veterans and/or their families but does not include specific plans in the work plans or the narrative.

The applicant does not included details of how they will pursue new collaborations in order to engage volunteers in high-quality opportunities to serve the community.

There are not sufficient details to indicate all volunteers are receiving appropriate and continual training in their volunteer positions.

While there is mention of plans to recruit volunteers around needs outside of the Primary Focus Area, specific plans

are not outlined.

The applicant's description of staff duties and responsibilities does not include details, thereby impeding an overall assessment of the day-to-day management of volunteers, volunteer stations and those served.

The applicant does not include volunteer insurance in the budget.

The applicant does not include specific details about the collection and measurement of data for assuring National Performance Measure outcomes and outputs.