

SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

2013 RSVP Competition

Legal Applicant: Family Services of Champaign County

Applicant ID: 13SR143634

Project Name: RSVP of Champaign, Douglas and Piatt Counties

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 provides compelling data which demonstrates the need in the target area of Champaign, Douglas and Piatt County. Information is provided on high poverty rates, growth of the elderly and older adult population and increase in food insecurity demonstrated by increase in food bank services.

The applicant's third party local and national data was also provided by the U.S. Census, Illinois Food Back annual report and Carle Foundation Hospital Senior needs assessment, which further documents the unmet needs of food security and transportation.

The applicant provides a detail description of its plans to ensure RSVP volunteers receive training needed to be effective in their assignments. The applicant demonstrates that its current practices will ensure that volunteers are trained. Volunteers in some program are also offered additional continuing education opportunities throughout their terms of service.

The applicant demonstrates a comprehensive plan to retain and recognize RSVP volunteers. Volunteers are recognized on a continuous basis throughout their services.

The applicant demonstrates that the non-federal share is adequate and sustainable as evident by 50% match of non-federal resources committed to the program. The applicant also demonstrates the ability to sustain the non-federal share through a variety of sources including the United Way, private foundations and State funding.

The applicant presents a detailed budget that is reasonable and adequate for the scope of services to be provided. The budget reflects a plan and infrastructure to provide applicable costs reimbursement for volunteer's meals, insurance, mileage and recognition.

Weaknesses: