

SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

2013 RSVP Competition

Legal Applicant: Council of Churches of the Ozarks

Applicant ID: 13SR143635

Project Name: RSVP Springfield

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 definitive evidence demonstrating that this service activity will lead to the National Performance Measures outcomes.

The applicant indicates a significant focus on serving veterans and military families through providing transportation to local centers established to assist veterans and military families in a variety of areas.

The longevity of the organization is a strong indicator of recruitment success.

The applicant gives evidence of the development and enhancement of participant skills by including details of volunteer training in all service areas.

The applicant indicates use of signs on RSVP vans as advertisement for the organization, increasing its visibility in the community.

The applicant indicates a strong commitment to non-discriminatory practices due to physical disability or ageism in the recruitment of volunteers.

The applicant indicates a high level of commitment to this community need by maintaining a long-term staff position dedicated to managing the Primary Focus Area of Education.

The narrative includes detailed accounting of the roles, duties and responsibilities of RSVP staff, particularly those of the director.

The narrative indicates that the sponsoring organization has a long-standing, invested interest in supporting the RSVP organization, both financially and structurally.

Weaknesses:

The applicant presents data supporting a critical need in the community, and a clear plan for how RSVP will successfully address the need, but does not provide evidence that this need is unmet.