

SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

2013 RSVP Competition

Legal Applicant: Greater Erie Community Action Committee

Applicant ID: 13SR143641

Project Name: GECAC 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 organization clearly demonstrates that an unmet community need, food insecurity, in the geographic service area is inclusive of all age levels. As such, Healthy Futures as the Primary Focus Area.

The applicant organization proposes to provide 43% of Unduplicated Volunteers in Work Plans. This is well in excess of the required 10%.

The applicant organization clearly addresses the prevention and/or the identification of prohibited activities through a MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) that is executed with each volunteer station director and which delineates the responsibilities as well as the prohibited activities of each respective entity.

The applicant organization clearly and compellingly describes, in detail, how the proposed activities will address the community needs as identified and documented by the annual assessment as well as those that meet or align with the Corporation-wide Strategic Initiatives.

The applicant organization clearly provides detailed plans and infrastructure to manage project resources, both financial and in-kind, through the Management Committee/Board of Directors, the Vice President of Operations, and the Vice President of Finance in order to ensure accountability, including the efficient and effective use of available resources.

The applicant organization evidences a strategically articulated plan and the requisite infrastructure to provide sound programmatic and fiscal oversight, day-to-day operational support, and annual data collection, including clearly defined internal policies that are informed by ongoing data collection.

The proposed budget includes sufficient allocations for volunteer reimbursement and recognition expenses.

Weaknesses:

The applicant organization does not clearly provide evidence for a plan for the recruitment and development of volunteers who are from one of the three specific volunteer pools. Instead, the applicant restates the criteria/requirements.