

# SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

## 2013 RSVP Competition

**Legal Applicant:** Lutheran Social Services of Illinois

**Applicant ID:** 13SR143698

**Project Name:** RSVP of Winnebago and Boone 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 identified collaboration with other agencies, such as The Carpenters Place, to work with homeless vets to secure housing and jobs.

The applicant identified a Latino outreach program with a desire to build a bridge between cultures.

The applicant identified a varied recognition program with luncheons, birthday celebrations and newspaper presence for the volunteers, which promotes recruiting and retention.

#### Weaknesses:

The applicant does not provide objective sources in describing the unmet needs in the geographic service area. For instance, the applicant identifies veterans subjectively with no supportive data.

The applicant identifies training and supervision of the volunteer at the beginning of the assignment, but has no further details about how this will occur.

The applicant identified the graduation of stations to more appropriately serve the broader needs, but does not address how this will be done, or how the disruption of volunteers will be minimized when stations are graduated.