

SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

2013 RSVP Competition

Legal Applicant: HANDSON CENTRAL OHIO INC

Applicant ID: 13SR143756

Project Name: RSVP Franklin & Delaware 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's community need description for the Primary Focus Area of Healthy Futures documents the poverty levels for Franklin and Delaware, lists the USDA's ranking of Ohio as 10th in the nation for food security, and documents an increase in 2-1-1 calls made for food referrals in the past four years. Additionally, the applicant lists agencies in the area targeting food distribution including Holy Family, LifeCare Alliance, COA, Faith in Action and the Red Cross, and demonstrates the unmet need of volunteers for drivers and distribution.

The applicant has made initial contact with the VA Medical Center, Amvets of Ohio, and the USO of Central and Southern Ohio in order to enhance their Program Design to include activity in service to veterans and/or military families as part of service in the Primary Focus Area, Other Focus Areas or Capacity Building.

The applicant provides a recognition plan is described that includes an annual recognition luncheon open to active volunteers and station coordinators, and an annual celebration held during National Volunteer Week.

The applicant provides details about their existing and future plans for responsibly graduating volunteer stations including ensuring that communication plans are in place for notifying volunteers about other service opportunities, for example, by hosting information sessions to explain CNCS' new strategic plan.

Weaknesses:

The applicant's provides a general recruitment plan that is shared and includes outreach efforts to recruit volunteers by word of mouth, hosting one large recruitment event in Columbus, OH quarterly public meetings and through the use of electronic and social media; however, information is not included about how these plans will target recruitment of any of the groups noted in the selection criteria.

The applicant does not demonstrate the adequacy and sustainability of the applicant's proposed required non-federal financial share.

The applicant's Budget Narrative lists a cost of \$17 per person (times 200) for recognition items, but does not

provide a description of these items.

The applicant proposes criminal history checks for volunteers, but does not detail which volunteers will be required to have background checks and does not include these checks in the budget narrative.