

SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

2013 RSVP Competition

Legal Applicant: Washington County Commissioners

Applicant ID: 13SR143808

Project Name: RSVP of Washington County

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 shows a critical need for supporting a comprehensive transportation program in the region for military and non-military citizens.

The applicant clearly describes how the activities proposed will lead to outputs and/or outcomes in most cases; for instance, the free Tai Chi classes for seniors suffering from movement impairment.

The applicant shows a high level of commitment to recruiting older, disabled and veteran/military family volunteers.

The applicant describes a good follow-up to a situation where a volunteer expressed dissatisfaction with her volunteer experience. The situation was resolved to the volunteer's satisfaction and led to new ways to enhance volunteer experiences at that station.

The Presidential Service Award to volunteers achieving 4,000 hours of lifetime service, an elite group, can be highly motivating to senior volunteers.

The applicant makes use of social media, indicating an ability to move into new areas of marketing.

The applicant has successfully begun implementing plans for graduating volunteer stations to reflect changing community needs and new volunteer opportunities.

The narrative indicates a well-designed infrastructure for staff and administrative functions.

The Advisory Council is mentioned as integral to the success of RSVP; it is comprised of a very diverse representation of the community.

Weaknesses:

The budget is lacking in details, making it difficult to assess whether all items are appropriately funded, for instance, mileage reimbursement for volunteers does not note cost per mile nor projected miles.