

SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

2013 RSVP Competition

Legal Applicant: Experience, Inc.

Applicant ID: 13SR143823

Project Name: Warren/Forest County 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 presents a reasonable plan to graduate volunteers. Volunteers will be provided with other service opportunities through the proposed project or they may continue to volunteer outside the RSVP Program. This will be coordinated through the RSVP Advisory Council.

The applicant demonstrates track record of managing volunteers. The applicant has 58 volunteer stations for which it has oversight. Applicant also demonstrates experience working with community partner agencies and has a current advisory Board.

The applicant demonstrates capacity to secure non-federal share. In-kind support is provided through several sources including local donations, fundraising and in-kind services from partner agencies.

The applicant demonstrates that they have adequate infrastructure to manage RSVP volunteers to address community needs. Applicant has oversight of 58 volunteer stations and an Advisory Board is already in place which is comprised of partner agencies and volunteers.

Weaknesses:

The application lacks specific information on how the applicant will ensure that volunteers are placed at stations and assignments in which they can fully utilize their skills and experiences. No information is provided on how the applicant plans to screen and interview. Volunteers to determine skill level and experience.

The applicant has insufficient information is provided on how the plans to manage future volunteer stations to ensure compliance with RSVP regulations. For instance, the applicant does not state who will be responsible for oversight of volunteer stations managers or if these station managers will be required to complete training on

The applicant presents adequate data documenting the needs in the community, insufficient information is provided to determine if these needs are unmet.

The applicant's Budget lacks computation and breakdown of line items which makes it difficult to determine reasonableness.