

SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

2013 RSVP Competition

Legal Applicant: City of Plainview

Applicant ID: 13SR143875

Project Name: Runningwater Draw 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 identified three major elements which directly serve the identified needs with solid linkage and a National Performance Measure output. Measurement of the output and outcomes will be obtained through activity logs, client database, and surveys obtained through a working partnership with the stations.

The applicant identified veterans as a Primary Focus Area, with special attention to returning veterans' needs, elderly veterans, and recruiting retired veterans for service in the program.

The applicant identifies unmet needs to be addressed in the Primary Focus Area and also with Veterans and Military Families, Disaster Services and Environmental Stewardship Primary Focus Areas.

The applicant provided thoughtful consideration of graduating volunteers and stations to minimize disruption and continue to utilize services when possible, recognizing and appreciating volunteerism throughout the years.

The applicant clearly identifies public recognition and honor of volunteers for recruiting and retention, including monthly recognition, and an annual banquet. A Volunteer of the Month and Volunteer of the Year is selected by the RSVP Advisory Council and recognized with a newspaper article about their life and where they volunteer along with a picture in their community newspaper.

Weaknesses:

The applicant does not identify RSVP program regulation issues. The applicant states they will adhere to program regulations, and that is imperative, yet there is no plan on how to address identification or prevention of prohibited activities

The common goal for the sponsor and the RSVP project is to carefully utilize the federal grant funds to meet Performance Measures, however the application does not identify infrastructure to manage project resources, both financial and in-kind, with an acceptable probability of accountability.

The applicant provides unclear identification of the plan and infrastructure for recruiting RSVP volunteers, using “because they asked” as the most common method of recruitment.