

SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

2013 RSVP Competition

Legal Applicant: Elder Services, Inc.

Applicant ID: 13SR143915

Project Name: RSVP Johnson/Iowa/Muscatine/Des Moines

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:

Community needs to be addressed are well documented as evidenced by the percent of students qualifying for free or reduced lunch, the percent of residents at or below the poverty level, the amount of English Language Learners, and the effect of poverty on the formative years.

A detailed plan is described that includes differentiated training according to the assignment.

Realistic plans are included for RSVP volunteers addressing community needs outside of Education (Primary Focus Area) including serving older and homebound seniors.

Weaknesses:

The absence of information regarding the outcome of prior management of project resources makes it difficult to assess the managing project resources.

Limited information reported regarding the adequacy and reasonableness of the budget to support volunteer recruitment and recognition as well as non-federal funds.