

SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

2013 RSVP Competition

Legal Applicant: Riverside County Office on Aging

Applicant ID: 13SR143950

Project Name: Coachella Valley 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 recruitment plan clearly demonstrates the intent to recruit a diverse and all-inclusive cadre of RSVP volunteers, specifically representing individuals of all races, ethnicities, sexual orientation, and degrees of English language proficiency.

20% of the unduplicated volunteers are included in the work plans. This is twice the required 10%.

Weaknesses:

The application does not include plans and infrastructure to develop and/or oversee volunteer stations that address specified unmet community needs outside the Primary Focus Area.

The applicant organization supports the program with 85% grant funds; as such, the sustainability of the program is not evident or assured.

The community need for the Primary Focus Area of Healthy Futures is largely supported by national statistics on aging populations as well as general assumptions rather than local statistics. For instance, specific needs and/or unmet challenges within this population are not identified with recent and/or reliably sourced demographic data.

The application does not specifically address or identify activities or initiatives targeting veterans and/or military families.

The application does not make a clear connection between the proposed activities and the performance measures. For instance, the application does not clarify how volunteers with disaster preparedness training will be utilized.