

# SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

## 2013 RSVP Competition

**Legal Applicant:** Tompkins Co Senior Citizens Council, Inc.

**Applicant ID:** 13SR144061

**Project Name:** Tompkins 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:

In several instances the applicant does describe how volunteer activities in its Primary Focus Area will lead to National Performance Measure Outcomes in its work plans.

#### Weaknesses:

The applicant provides contradictory and confusing information regarding the proposed activities in its Primary Focus Area - Healthy Futures. In the narrative the applicant states that most seniors in the prioritized geographic are in good health and four out of five elderly residents have no limitations in mobility or self-care, however key elements of the work plans are aimed at addressing such needs.

The applicant does not reference plans or an infrastructure for managing volunteer stations to ensure RSVP regulations are met and prohibited activities are identified and prevented from occurring.

While the applicant provides evidence of past RSVP program success as related to its volunteer activities, information is not provided about internal systems, operations, policies or procedures that demonstrate the applicant's experience in providing effective program oversight.

The applicant describes the background and education of staff, but not their proposed roles with the RSVP program and how the positions will be sustained.

The applicant does not provide clarifications, calculations or other descriptive information to justify any of the line items, nor is any information provided about sources of revenue for Volunteer Costs or Volunteer Support Costs.

The applicant does not describe adequate plans to ensure the continued and increased share of match funds as appropriate and suggests that federal funds should be at a high level in the future to respond to increased needs