

SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

2013 RSVP Competition

Legal Applicant: Harcatus CAO Inc.

Applicant ID: 13SR144073

Project Name: Harcatus RSVP 2013

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 sites Healthy Futures, an existing program, as its primary focus. It lists three (3) realistic performance measures that will be used to achieve it.

The applicant will assist veterans; a new station for local RSVP volunteers will be established in the Veteran's Administration clinic. Activities and performance measures demonstrate how RSVP volunteers will address the need.

The applicant's procedures are in place to ensure annual data collection and sound fiscal accountability in compliance with internal fiscal policies.

The applicant's amounts budgeted for RSVP volunteer recruitment and recognition, applicable costs and reimbursable expenses to volunteers such as transportation and criminal history background checks are appropriate and reasonable.

Weaknesses:

The applicant's data given describing the needs do not cite reliable, objective references, such the Census Bureau.

The applicant's plan presented is unclear as to how the training and the infrastructure will create high quality RSVP volunteer assignments and how the training is related to the service activities.

The applicant's concentrated recruitment effort is currently being conducted to secure veterans to train as volunteers, but the plan for doing so is inadequately described.

The plan provides too little detail to ensure that the proposed recognition activities will assist in retaining volunteer retention.

The applicant does not present a plan to ensure that volunteer stations and assignments comply with RSVP program

regulations.

The applicant does not provide clear plans to ensure oversight of volunteer stations outside the Primary Focus Area.

The applicant has insufficient details are given how the accounting department assists with all financial aspects of the project.

The applicant does not have plans or an infrastructure that is provided to ensure that community needs are met and that National Performance Measures data are collected.

The applicant's procedures for graduating volunteer stations are vague.

The applicant's share of the budget is 29.6%. This falls short of the 30% program requirement

The applicant has a long history of administering grants, it has an advisory council, and fiscal procedures are in place. It is unclear what tangible assets the applicant has.

The applicant's narrative is vague about how it will measure performance in the Primary Focus Area.

The applicant's required non-federal funds budgeted are inadequate given that the applicant shows its contribution below the program requirement.