

# SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

## 2013 RSVP Competition

**Legal Applicant:** Little Dixie Community Action Agency

**Applicant ID:** 13SR144095

**Project Name:** Little Dixie 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 provides an in-depth explanation of numerous community needs in rural southeast Oklahoma in the area of Health Futures (lack of health insurance, poverty, low health rankings, unemployment, and lack of medical facilities).

The program design includes significant activities for veterans. The applicant's approach to serving with veterans (volunteers providing a wide array of services) responds to the array of problems facing veterans returning from war or in the community.

The applicant illustrates that volunteers will have time for personal reflection on their experience volunteering and will be surveyed on their satisfaction with the volunteer experience.

The applicant's plans and infrastructure for fiscal oversight is strengthened by the applicant's extensive system for tracking volunteer activities, outputs and outcomes. 44 years of experience operating federal and state grant programs illustrates organizational capacity.

The applicant's narrative regarding sources of non-federal funds is strong. It provides a high level of detail explaining the applicant's relationships with raising funds from many partners over the past years.

#### Weaknesses:

The Performance Measures section includes only one performance outcome: providing a survey measuring food security.

The applicant does not illustrate a consistent training program for volunteers. The applicant states that certain stations offer training for volunteers, but does not provide details on what that training is or mention any oversight that is happening to make sure that all volunteers receive adequate training for their volunteer position.

The applicant's plan to graduate volunteers' states that the stations have been graduated and the transition was

seamless, but it provides no detailed information on how many sites or volunteers were graduated.