

# SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

## 2013 RSVP Competition

**Legal Applicant:** Pima Council on Aging Inc.

**Applicant ID:** 13SR144116

**Project Name:** RSVP-Tucson 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 demonstrates community needs are compelling and well-documented as evidenced by the data provided from the U.S. Census Bureau, PCOA, and United Way Needs Assessment, county-wide focus groups, surveys and public comment meetings to support their Primary Focus Area of Healthy Futures.

The proposed activities of providing transportation, providing financial literacy, and health care information do address the identified needs to support their assertion that elders living in a rural area will be able to maintain living independently.

The applicant presents a vigorous plan to retain volunteers through individual classroom training, staff support, leadership training, open door policy from staff, monthly meetings with informational updates and a data tracking database.

Outreach to Spanish-speaking volunteers through an established station in a predominately Hispanic community has resulted in the recruitment and training of Spanish-speaking volunteers.

50% of the unduplicated volunteers are included in outcome work plans. This is well above the required 10%.

The applicant demonstrates previous relevant success with fiscal and programmatic oversight as evidenced by having experienced and professional staff in financial management, fund development and management information systems technologies. Monthly, quarterly and yearly reports to the program director maintain a high level of organizational capability.

The applicant demonstrates a proven history of successful program management and collaboration with two organizations to maintain and sustain the in-kind match required.

#### Weaknesses:

There is no information on the type of instruments to be used for data collection for outcomes and outputs. Also, there is no information about the specific methods to be used or an explanation of who will do the collection.