

SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

2013 RSVP Competition

Legal Applicant: Thames Valley Council for Community Action

Applicant ID: 13SR144159

Project Name: Windham/Tolland & Southern New London

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 is an experienced RSVP for over 20 years and manages many Senior related programs within the proposed target area.

Weaknesses:

The applicant does not indicate that matching funds have been secured or from where the funds will come to this project.

The applicant uses majority of CNCS funds for agency staff salaries, benefits and travel.

The applicant's budget contains limited resources for criminal background checks and insurance.

The application contains limited discussion of background checks in narrative section of the proposal.

The applicant does not provide specifics on how they will establish high quality stations for volunteer assignments, though there is some discussion as to areas they plan to target.

The applicant's training plans are not detailed and do not indicate training topics to be addressed with volunteers relies heavily on stations providing training.