

SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

2013 RSVP Competition

Legal Applicant: Butler County Community Resource Council

Applicant ID: 13SR144287

Project Name: Butler County, MO 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's Primary Focus Area is Healthy Futures. The applicant explains the community's priority needs, which are access to care, aging in place, and obesity and food. The applicant states expected impact by the end of the 12 month performance period.

The applicant exhibits good plans and demonstrates the necessary infrastructure to train RSVP volunteers. Use of interviews, assessments, and development tools are mentioned. The program will utilize Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) resources to support training, and will additionally sponsor local training workshops. The applicant will seek regular counsel and technical assistance from the State Program office as needed.

The applicant provides a plan to manage and assess sound programmatic and fiscal oversight, day-to-day operational support and annual data collection. The applicant explains most assumptions regarding infrastructure to provide sound programmatic and fiscal oversight. The applicant demonstrates significant and healthy non-federal financial support from a number of community partners.

The applicant demonstrates terrific support from community partners in the form of non-federal funding. The application budget specifically addresses and demonstrates the commitment of the Butler County Community Resource Council (CRC) to secure resources that exceed required non-federal funds.

Weaknesses:

While Performance Measure 7.1 does delineate community-based volunteer activities that serve veterans, the applicant does not demonstrate in its narrative a strong case for working with veterans and military families.

While it is noted that the RSVP program has a greater reach in connecting with volunteers of diverse backgrounds through its Community Resources Council affiliation, the applicant does not specifically explain how it will recruit volunteers by race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, English language proficiency, nor how it will recruit veterans or military family members, or people with disabilities.

The applicant explains that the Program Director will train volunteers in rules and regulation of CNCS, but does not provide detail as to plans and infrastructure to ensure management of volunteer stations are in compliance with RSVP program regulations, including preventing or identifying prohibited activities.

The applicant budgets \$1,000 for volunteer recognition. The budgeted recognition dollars seem inadequate, and it is unclear whether a portion of the non-federal share enhances recognition efforts. Given the collective strengths of this total application, there is fair confidence of the adequacy and reasonableness of the budget to support RSVP volunteer recruitment and recognition.