

SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

2013 RSVP Competition

Legal Applicant: Carbon County Government

Applicant ID: 13SR144344

Project Name: 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:

In the Strengthening Communities section, the applicant provides a strong description of the Carbon County population.

In the Strengthening Communities section, the applicant describes a County-wide Needs Assessment, in partnership with local organizations such as the Food Bank and United Way, with survey and data collection completed.

The applicant is using the Needs Assessment to determine service activities in the Performance Measures section.

The applicant describes opportunities for volunteers to reflect on their service and share via an online forum on the Volunteer Solutions site.

The applicant is working with veteran organizations to increase the number of veterans serving and to improve the type of service performed by veterans.

In the Recruitment and Development section, the applicant describes its plans for retaining volunteers through regular training, a newsletter, and one-on-one check-in phone calls with volunteers.

The applicant describes major financial and administrative support from the Carbon County Government.

The applicant proposes a project with significant cost-sharing and identifies the source of funds with high reliability.

The applicant notes that the proposed Executive Director has managed the RSVP program for 13 years, and has past experience with VISTA and nonprofit organizations.

In the Organizational Capability section, the applicant describes the significant role of the Carbon County Clerk/Auditor's office in overall project management.

In the Program Management section, the applicant describes policies and procedures to assure that volunteer stations are aware of and follow RSVP rules, including establishing the MOU and monthly meetings.

Weakness:

The applicant does not adequately describe plans to assure accuracy of data reported by volunteer stations.

The applicant needs to clarify the number of volunteers proposed. The NOFA refers to 195 volunteers; the applicant's proposal states that 160 volunteers will serve in RSVP.