

SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

2013 RSVP Competition

Legal Applicant: West Central MN Community Action, Inc.

Applicant ID: 13SR144357

Project Name: West Central MN Communities Action RSVP-NYM Competition

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 community need in the geographic area and identified in the Primary Focus Area – Economic Opportunity was clearly demonstrated with statistics and with references illustrating the poverty level being higher than the state poverty level.

The applicant's infrastructure was described and included a strategy to engage diverse participation by implementing a tripartite format with low income, community representatives and elected officials supporting the opportunity for diverse voices, sharing of experience, ability and skill.

The applicant's Primary Focus Area is Economic Opportunity. The track record of the organization is illustrated by the award it has won from the University of Minnesota and the Minnesota Community Action Partnership for its programs regarding Family Economic Success.

The applicant's budget is adequate and clearly describes each component.

Weaknesses: