

SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

2013 RSVP Competition

Legal Applicant: Shepherd's Center Central

Applicant ID: 13SR144493

Project Name: Coming of Age/RSVP Johnson County

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 clearly defines the need for the services selected for the targeted populations in the Primary Focus Area.

The application offers a detailed description of a plan to recognize volunteers, offer them assignments of their choice based on skills and interests, flexible schedules, and means to report volunteer hours.

The applicant's 59% of the unduplicated volunteers are included in the work plans. This is well above the required 10%.

The applicant's key staff members have ample relevant experience in the Primary Focus Area.

Weaknesses:

The application describes an annual survey of volunteers to obtain feedback regarding satisfaction and value of experience; it is unclear how the satisfaction of volunteers who age-out or exit the program between annual surveys will be measured.

The applicant is unclear on how the plan of conducting interviews and record reviews, which will assist in ensuring the stations' compatibility with meeting community needs, will also be used to make adjustments in RSVP stations/community programs, work plans, and job descriptions for RSVP volunteers after the stations are selected.

The applicant's RSVP Coordinator will assess each station to determine if the work plans are meeting current community needs; no specific information is provided to demonstrate how this will be accomplished.

The application does not provide specific information about how the program staff will be sustained after the grant funding ends.

No information is provided to explain how some costs were calculated such as the volunteer recognition event,

insurance liability premiums, etc.