

SUMMARY REVIEWER COMMENTS

2013 RSVP Competition

Legal Applicant: TN Opportunity Programs, Inc. (TOPS)

Applicant ID: 13SR144500

Project Name: RSVP Warren & Van Buren 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 provides a realistic description of how the proposed activities connect to the identified community need and to National Performance measure outputs.

The applicant has cited numerous methods and resources it will use to create high quality volunteer assignments including recruiting volunteers through families of existing volunteers, utilizing community partner programs, use of surveys and social media, input from exiting RSVP volunteers, etc.

The applicant states 100% of its unduplicated volunteers will be performing activities in National Performance Measure outcome work plans.

The applicant outlines a great history of volunteer engagement; program surveys to evaluate strength and weaknesses of Project Director's role in managing volunteer stations, coordinating program activities, etc.

The applicant has stated experience in managing federal grants through the administration of grants funded by the U.S. Department of Labor, the U.S. Department of Education and CNCS.

The applicant has a minimum of a 30% match; budget includes an excess amount of \$530.

Weaknesses:

The applicant describes a community need but is unclear how the objective data demonstrates that the community need is unmet.

The applicant does not provide planned activities to serve veterans and/or military families.

The applicant's plan is unclear how the proposed activities will serve recruitment and development from one of the three volunteer pools.