

# APPLICANT FEEDBACK SUMMARY

## 2015 AmeriCorps State and National Grant Competition

**Legal Applicant:** Shasta County Child Abuse Prevention Council

**Application ID:** 15AC170701

**Program Name:** North State Rural Asset Project

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 summary 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 more than one Reviewer. For this reason, some of the comments may seem to be inconsistent or contradictory. Comments are not representative of all of the information used in the final funding decision.

### Reviewers' Summary Comments

#### **Strengths:**

The applicant clearly and persuasively identified the severity of child abuse and neglect in Shasta County in comparison to the entire state of California.

The applicant's logic model strongly demonstrated the how the use of the evidence-based Triple P and/or Safe Care parenting education curricula and AmeriCorps members case management activities were well aligned and connected to the desired outcomes.

AmeriCorps member's participation in monthly, two hour conference sessions with a Marriage and Family Intern that included a case management skill component in addition to the comprehensive, detailed orientation and ongoing subject specific training effectively equipped the Members to deliver a high quality service.

The applicant demonstrated an effective means of ensuring member's success at each site by providing guidance and support from monthly NSRAP Project Coordinator site visits and bi-monthly site supervisor meetings.

The applicant's plan to recognize and acknowledge Members through a "Service Super Star" award following each service event provided an effective way to create passion and promote positive member experiences.

The applicant's plan to ensure that each member receives certification in at least one evidence-based parent education curriculum along with other specialized training and certification, such as First Aid and CPR, provided skill development to assist in future employment.

The applicant describes in great detail the significant outcomes possible from utilizing the Triple P and SafeCare parenting programs thus making a compelling case for implementing these programs.

The application contained strong data that compared the number of substantiated child abuse/neglect reports in the target county with the number statewide in order to support the rationale for selecting Shasta County as the target county.

The applicant clearly describes how an AmeriCorps member's certification in the evidenced-based parenting curriculums prepares them to be a strong candidate for employment with social services providers.

The application provides compelling data to document the problem and prevalence of child abuse and neglect in Shasta County and the need for parent education and support.

The proposed intervention of in home case management and parenting education using Triple P and SafeCare curricula is evidenced based and has been shown to be effective in increasing Protective Factors outlined in the research based "Strengthening Families" framework.

The application describes a well-designed training plan which includes testing to verify knowledge gained along with certification in useful skills such as evidenced based parenting education curricula, first aid and CPR. The applicant's training plan provides detailed timelines and supervisory roles in the continuous training of Members.

The applicant provides a clear and reasonable Supervision plan for Members which incorporates MOUs with the host sites and NSRAP staff.

The applicant's plan for Members to receive a meaningful experience is adequately described and includes recognition, reflection and includes sharing written success stories with staff and fellow Members.

**Weaknesses:**

The applicant's plan for an annual host site supervisor training and orientation was minimal and insufficient in relation to supervisory skills required given the nature of the preventative services and the impact of high need beneficiaries on the member's caseload.

The applicant did not clearly demonstrate how Members would be encouraged to continue to engage in public and community service beyond their current service term.

The applicant stated risk factors for both children and adults experiencing child abuse and neglect yet did not provide supporting statistics to indicate that these risk factors were present or a problem in the target county.

The applicant had limited information on how the AmeriCorps members would reflect on their experiences.

The application is lacking information to indicate whether the paraprofessional support the AmeriCorps members would be providing duplicates the roles of staff or volunteers already existing in the targeted areas.

The applicant does not provide details on the role of leveraged volunteers, especially the specific role of the 1 member assigned solely to recruiting volunteers and the details on how they will accomplish this volunteer recruitment.