

# APPLICANT FEEDBACK SUMMARY

## 2015 AmeriCorps State and National Grant Competition

**Legal Applicant:** Partnership For Youth, Inc

**Application ID:** 15ES170132

**Program Name:** Safety Service Corps- Fixed Amount

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:**

Training programs for Members are extensive and clearly identified such as the location sites, topics which will be covered, and specific lengths of each training session.

Reflection and evaluation throughout the proposed program between Members and supervisors is detailed, clear, and meets the program objectives; benchmarks are defined in how they will be achieved, how Members will be recognized for their performance, and the schedule of when important training topics will be repeated for volunteers and Members.

The applicant's strong commitment to developing an ethic of life-long service and citizenship building among their Members is evidenced by the public service career choices of alumni, targeted recruiting of alumni for internal positions, post-service engagement in service-based projects, and high attendance at alumni events.

The applicant uses AmeriCorps alumni as Member "leaders" who assist in coaching and reinforcing accountability standards which helps to build esprit de corps.

The program design includes two retreats that enhances a Members' ability to reflect on the greater meaning of their service.

#### **Weaknesses:**

Timelines for training are not found in the narrative.

It is unclear in the narrative if the Supervisors who will be providing Member training are qualified.

Member recruitment methods within the local community is not clearly stated.

The applicant does not address member recruitment in the application.

The applicant does not clearly address why the vulnerable segments of their specific population require intervention by AmeriCorps members and volunteers.

It is not clear how severe weather events impact the natural wildland areas in Missouri and what the consequences are for the degradation.

The applicant fails to describe how the AmeriCorps member service will produce a significant and unique contribution to the unidentified six emergency management partners.

The natural restoration and stewardship activities do not have a logical cause and effect relationship with the desired outcomes.

Overall, the proposal lacked detailed descriptions that would clearly explain the applicant's needs, goals, activities, training plans, member supervision and recruitment.