

APPLICANT FEEDBACK SUMMARY: External Review 2016 AmeriCorps State and National Grant Competition

LEGAL APPLICANT: Wayne State University
PROGRAM NAME: AmeriCorps Urban Safety Program

APPLICATION ID: 16AC180624

The purpose of this summary feedback is to enhance our programs by improving the quality and quantity of applications to the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS). These comments originate from the External Review, and are not meant to represent a comprehensive assessment. Rather, the analysis pertains to the evidence base portion of the application and the elements that had the greatest impact on Reviewer determinations for the Evidence Tier and Quality Rating. This feedback consists of summary comments from more than one Reviewer. For this reason, some of the comments may seem inconsistent or contradictory. Comments are not representative of all of the information used in the final funding decision.

External Reviewers' Summary Comments

Evidence Tier: PRE-PRELIMINARY

Evidence Tier Justification: The applicant runs the AmeriCorps Urban Safety (AMUS) program which combines crime data they obtain from COMPSTAT with the neighborhood-level crime prevention and interventions strategies performed by AmeriCorps members and community volunteers. The applicant notes that they have conducted process evaluations in the past but does not elaborate on the details. They also note that they have looked at the impact AMUS has had on the community, but it is not clear if the true impact is from COMSTAT (which they do not operate) or the neighborhood-level crime prevention and intervention strategies.

The AMUS model is described as having six components:

- 1) Identify crime problems and trends.
- 2) Streamline the communication process among researchers, community members, and police precincts to facilitate timely and efficient responses shifting crime trends.
- 3) Use CompStat to identify the few offenders that are responsible for the largest amount of crime. These High-Impact Offenders are presented at each CompStat meeting, informing the attendees of those who cause the greatest issues in their community.
- 4) Identify strategic actions to limit the impact of chronic offenders on the community;
- 5) Encourage community organizing so that residents are able to better police themselves and efficiently utilize resources to reduce crime;
- 6) Communicate directly with offenders to instill community messages against offending, provide notice of legal consequences to crime, and offer help.

The attached data report was not reviewed as this is not required in the Pre-Preliminary Tier and it contained only a description of their crime analysis program and then charts of decreases in crimes, but with no description of the methods used to measure and/or calculate these changes. Because the applicant has collected some data on implementation and outcomes, the Evidence Tier of Pre-Preliminary was chosen.

Quality Rating Justification: The attached data report was not reviewed as it contained only a description of their crime analysis program and then charts of decreases in crimes, but with no description of the methods used to measure and/or calculate these changes. There is insufficient detail given regarding data collection and analysis to

determine the quality and rigor of the process and outcome evaluations the applicant has performed. Further, it is unclear whether past positive outcomes that were achieved were due to their policing program or to COMSTAT.