

# Tips on using surveys provided by volunteer stations for Healthy Futures measures



In some cases, it may be practical to rely on surveys provided by the station to measure Healthy Futures outcomes H9 (independent living) and H14 (respite) as a substitute for developing your own survey. However, it is important to make sure any station surveys you use will allow you to report on the Healthy Futures performance measures in your work plans. Here are some tips on using surveys provided by volunteer stations.

<b>1</b>	<p><b>Keep the questions that matter the most.</b> Surveys provided by volunteer stations <u>should always include</u> these two questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Because I have a RSVP volunteer, I feel less lonely.</li> <li>2. Because I have a RSVP volunteer, I feel I have close ties to more people.</li> </ol> <p>(Response options: Strongly disagree, Somewhat disagree, Somewhat Agree, Strongly Agree)</p> <p>You will need the data from these questions to address H9 for independent living clients or H14 for recipients of respite services. Please do not change or substitute these questions.</p>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Let stations know which questions matter the most.</b> If surveys provided by volunteer stations do not include the questions listed in tip #1, then work with station staff to add them to the surveys. Let them know these questions are necessary for your own grant reporting.</p>
<b>3</b>	<p><b>Limit the survey to RSVP.</b> If the volunteer station will give surveys to everyone (regardless of whether they are served by an RSVP volunteer), then either ask stations to help you identify which surveys were completed by clients or caregivers served by RSVP volunteers, or ask stations to let you or the RSVP volunteers give out the surveys to the people they serve. One way to identify surveys for individuals served by RSVP volunteers is to put these surveys on different colored paper.</p>
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Work with stations to get the “raw data”.</b> Make arrangements to get the completed surveys from the volunteer stations if they will be collecting the data. Let station staff know that you need the data for your own grant reporting, and that you prefer to get the raw data (numbers) to do your own tallies. This way you can be sure to tally responses to the two questions that respond to outcome H9 or H14.</p>
<b>5</b>	<p><b>Make the most of this information-gathering opportunity.</b> Consider any other questions you would like to add to the volunteer stations’ surveys for your own needs, including other questions from the Healthy Futures surveys. Examples might include questions asking about satisfaction with the RSVP volunteer or comments about the service.</p>
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Ask for help.</b> For additional advice and assistance with using surveys provided by volunteer stations, please contact the Senior Corps Surveys Help Desk at <b>1-800-207-0750</b> or email <a href="mailto:SCSurvey@ibsinternational.com">SCSurvey@ibsinternational.com</a>.</p>