## **APPLICANT FEEDBACK - Program Design**

2011 AmeriCorps State and National Grant Competition

Legal Applicant: Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America, Prevention Treatment & Outreach Program for the NG	Application ID: 11ND125833

Below are the comments from each External Peer Reviewer that read and evaluated the application. While Reviewers did engage in discussion about their evaluations, consensus was not required as part of their review. Therefore, there may be differing views in their feedback on the quality of the proposal.

**COMMENTS:** (+) The National Guard and Reserve members are disconnected from the support systems of active duty bases as clearly stated in the application and need support to be provided in a different way. (+) The project plans to utilize current partnerships with the National Guard Bureau as well as seek partnerships within communities to further the outreach to the community. (+) Training veterans in coalition-building and leadership in the community is a skill well suited for select veterans. (-) The applicant does not describe how utilizing members in this way will impact the problem.

**COMMENTS:** (+) The applicant expertly utilized study results to identify the need to help National Guard and Reserve veterans and their families receive support similar to what is found on active duty military installations. (+) Using National Guard risk data, the applicant capably identified 10 states with the highest needs and 25 localities with the capacity to support the program. (+) The applicant identified appropriate members to work with local military and community services to directly address the identified problem. (+) The desired outcomes are directly linked to the identified problem of veterans and family members away from military installations not having the necessary support structure to provide social, mental, and health services.

**COMMENTS:** (+) The applicant provided evidence that National Guard and Reserve (NGR) members, who have been deployed, and their families receive less support and resources from the Department of Veterans Administration then their regular active duty counterparts. (+) The applicant has shown that National Guard and Reservist families do not benefit from services made available to regular active duty military such as, base housing, family support centers, chaplain and counseling services, emotional health campaigns, child care, etc. (+) The applicant has shown that a large number of NGR reside in their intended service areas. (+) The applicant demonstrates a well-designed recruitment and training plan which was created collaboratively with its intended AmeriCorps partners across a ten state service area. (+) The applicant demonstrates

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resources and measurements designed to evaluate impact on the community which match each individual site service need. (+) The applicant has multiple community-based partnerships which will provide AmeriCorps members with quality service experiences within the community. (+) The AmeriCorps members will receive training in collaboration, networking, and team building with community partners as well as be exposed to formal networking opportunities within the community they are serving. (+) The applicant demonstrates prior success in engaging community members in civic engagement. (+) The applicant has based its service model of peer-to-peer service which is known as a best practice for service to veterans. (+) The applicant explains how AmeriCorps members will benefit their host site by having an individual to focus on outreach and the provision of service assistance, dissemination of information, prevention activities, problem identification and referral. (+) The applicant has demonstrated that peer-to-peer outreach and service provision reduces barriers to understanding and human connection making it highly likely those AmeriCorps members who are veterans will be successful in their efforts to reach other veterans and their families. (+) The applicant provides a strong training component for AmeriCorps members in order to enhance their skills and support them in being successful in reaching their individual work goals. (-) The applicant indicates large numbers of veterans and their family's members will be served; however, they do not provide statistics of past service levels so that comparisons in what difference AmeriCorps will make can be made.

**COMMENTS:** (+) The applicant provided well-documented evidence to support the problem, and provided a good description of why the AmeriCorps members would be a good match for the program. (-) The applicant provided good specific details of the measures to be used to evaluate the program, but did not provide quantifiable anticipated outcomes.