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Performance Measurement in AmeriCorps

Comment On: CNCS-2020-0021-0001

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposals, Submissions, and Approvals: Application Package for Performance Measurement in

AmeriCorps: Surveys of Members, Former Members, and Organizations

**Document:** CNCS-2020-0021-0004 Comment from Anthony Swingruber

## **Submitter Information**

Name: Anthony Swingruber Address: United States,

Email: Anthony.Swingruber@ocfs.ny.gov

Organization: NYS Commission on National and Community Service

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Government Agency: NYS Office of Children and Family Services

## **General Comment**

One of the most important ways to increase the Utility of the data collected would be to share it with Commissions and the programs from which members are exiting.

There is little technological challenge in sharing anonymized data sets with programs (or creating a filterable search of the raw data that allows for this level of disaggregation) and since few programs have a number of member responses below, say, ten members, the anonymity of responses would be protected.

The value to programs and Commissions in getting data sets that represent the experience of members serving is high. The stated "...purpose

of the information collection [the exit survey] is to learn more about the member experience and member perceptions of their AmeriCorps experience in order to improve the program". What could be more useful than to actually let the programs that are hosting members see the results of their efforts, not in aggregate across the country, but specifically by program so that they can use it for continuous improvement.

45 CFR 2522.100 [Minimum Requirements for AmeriCorps Programs] requires that programs "must (b) Perform projects that are designed, implemented, and evaluated with extensive and broadbased local input, including consultation with... participants in the program". This data should be available to programs in a usable format to meet this requirement, since it is already being collected by the Corporation.

Further, this action would reduce the overall burden on members [see "(d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents"] because it would, in the cases where programs and/or Commissions require their own Exit Surveys, allow for the elimination of duplicative questions or, possibly, eliminate the need for double, or triple, surveying of members as they exit.