General Survey of Fellows in the Fellowship Program

Note: This form is intended to feedback from fellows in the SC2 Fellowship Placement Pilot Program. Information collected from this survey will be used to determine programmatic changes or enhancements HUD can make to improve the fellowship program in the future and assist the Fellowship Management Team with its evaluation of the impacts and influence of the fellows in helping the pilot communities build capacity.

In light of the first twelve months of your fellowship placement, please provide us with feedback by completing the following survey. The survey is broken down into categories which cover the major activities and milestones of the first half of your fellowship experience (e.g. orientation, projects) with a mix of questions.

Application and Orientation:

1. How did you learn about the SC2 Fellowship Program?

    ☐ Friend/Family
    ☐ Co-Worker
    ☐ List-serv
    ☐ Website
    ☐ Other, please specify: _____

2. Overall, rate the selection process in terms of timing and communication.

    1-Very good
    2-Good
    3-Fair
    4-Poor
    5-Very Poor

3. What do you suggest for improving or enhancing the selection process in the future?

4. Rate your satisfaction with the orientation materials/resources you received at the start of the fellowship program.

    ☐ Very Satisfied
    ☐ Satisfied
    ☐ Somewhat Satisfied
    ☐ Dissatisfied
    ☐ Very Dissatisfied

5. How helpful was the program orientation webinar (September 5, 2012) to you and your work in your pilot city?

   Very Helpful
   Helpful
   Somewhat helpful
   Of little help
   Not at all helpful

6. Is there anything specific that can be done to improve the overall orientation to the program and your pilot city?

7. Did you participate in any formal orientation organized by your *host city* when you arrived?

   ☐ Yes
   ☐ No

   If yes, what was organized and how did they do it? If no, what would have been helpful?

8. Who helped/assisted with informal or a more formal orientation? (Check all that apply.)

   ☐ Local Project Manager (LPM)
   ☐ Other SC2 Fellows
   ☐ Others in my department
   ☐ CST
   ☐ NGOs
   ☐ Others outside of the city

9. How did you get acclimated to your host city (e.g. finding a place to live, establishing a network for activities outside of your fellowship position)

10. Is there anything specific that you would suggest to improve or facilitate the transition into a fellowship placement?

11. How familiar are you now with the different aspects (national and local activities/projects) the Strong Cities, Strong Communities Initiative and its primary goals?

1-Very familiar
2-Familiar
3-Somewhat Familiar
4-Little Knowledge
5-No Knowledge

12. How connected are you (have you been) with other SC2 components (i.e. the federal community solution teams, the resource network) in your pilot city?

1-Very Connected
2-Connected
3-Somewhat Connected
4-Little Connection Exists
5-No Connection

13. Should the fellows have stronger connection with the CSTs in their pilot cities? If yes, do you have any suggestions for how HUD and the management team could better facilitate this?

14. How connected are you with other SC2 Fellows?

1-Very Connected
2-Connected
3-Somewhat Connected
4-Little Connection Exists
5-No Connection

15. Would you like more connection with other SC2 Fellows in and outside of your placement city? If yes, do you have any suggestions for how the management team could better facilitate this?

Professional Development:

Now having attended and participated in four o Management Academies:

16. How helpful is the content of the academies' training sessions to your primary SC2 project(s)?

1-Very Helpful
2-Helpful
3-Somewhat Helpful
4-Of little help
5-Not at all helpful

17. How helpful is the content to your professional skills and development?

1-Very Helpful
2-Helpful
3-Somewhat Helpful
4-Of little help
5-Not at all helpful

18. What other benefits do you receive from attending the management academies? Please rank:

☐ Networking and socializing with other fellows
☐ Learning about the challenges of other cities similar to your host city
☐ Learning from/networking with the SC2 Management Team
☐ Other benefits, please specify: _____

19. Have you sought any additional professional development opportunities? Why or why not? Is there anything the management team can do to assist?

20. Are you engaged in other professional development projects or programs offered by your host city or nonprofit groups in your community? If so, please list these projects/programs and the host organization or sponsor:

21. Are you engaged in other community service/civic projects or programs within your host community? If so, please list the project/programs.

22. Reflecting on the first year of your fellowship, how has it measured up to your personal expectations and professional goals?

1-Very Good
2-Good
3-Somewhat Good
4-Poor
5-Very Poor

23. What have you learned so far that you think will be useful moving forward in your career (this can be substantive subjects, concrete skills, or general awareness of local government, etc.)

Projects:

Describe the process of working with your LPM in identifying and selecting the projects included in your original Project Plan Agreement (PPA).

24. How many meetings did you have with your LPM about your original PPA?

25. How many weeks did the process take to select and finalize the work plan and milestones for your projects?

26. What worked best to hone your (and your LPM's) plan to a defined list of realistic projects?

27. What influences (internal to your host organizations or external) where involved with the final selection of your project(s)—positively and negatively—and its incorporation into the PPA?

28. Does your PPA include important or significant mid-term adjustments or modifications to the scope of work or changes to the milestones? Why or why not? If so, please explain.

29. Do you think the projects listed in your original and amended PPA match your skills and talent?

1-Strongly Agree
2-Agree
3-Somewhat Agree
4-Disagree
5-Strongly Disagree

30. Is it feasible for your projects (those included in your original and amended PPA) to be completed by the end of your Fellowship appointment (September 2014)? Please provide a predicted percentage completed for each of the projects listed in your PPA.

Main Project
Supplemental Project 1
Supplemental Project 2

31. Do you believe your project(s) will help build capacity within the scope of: (Please check all that apply.)

☐   The agency/department or nonprofit where you work
☐   The government
☐   A specific neighborhood, please specify: _____
☐   A specific section of the population, please specifiy:_____
☐   Other, please specific: _____

32. Describe the process of working with the SC2 Management Team in the draft, review and revision of your original and amended PPA.

33. How much time did you spend on each? (Estimate the time you spent in meetings, phone calls and writing your original PPA and compare that with you're the process to amend or refine your PPA.)

34. In general, how effective do you think the PPA is/will be in guiding your work

1-Very effective
2-Effective
3-Moderately effective
4-Of little effective
5-No effect

35. Approximate the date you began work on the project(s) outlined in your original PPA. (E.g. started in October 2012, started in the first quarter of 2013, etc.)

36. Where in your work plan are you with respect to your major SC2 project (provide a percentage, e.g., 30% complete, etc.)? (Project used in Management Academies.)

37. Were there any delays or issues in focusing your time/efforts on this major project? If so, please explain (e.g. internal issues with LPM, issues caused by other city processes and department; issues caused by external partners and stakeholders outside of the city) and discuss the type of issue/delay (e.g. lack of resources, time, focus, confusion over roles, lack of political support, insufficient buy-in from partners, etc.)

38. Did you have some early or recent breakthroughs or important milestones in working on your major project thus far? If so, please describe. If not, explain why:

39. In general, how satisfied are you with your progress toward project milestones?

1-Very Satisfied
2-Satisfied
3-Moderately Satisfied
4-Dissatisfied
5-Very Dissatisfied

Inputs:

40. In general, how satisfied are you with the level of contact and availability of your mentor?

1-Very Satisfied
2-Satisfied
3-Moderately Satisfied
4-Dissatisfied
5-Very Dissatisfied

41. Would you like more contact? Please explain: _____
If so, what is the best method for mentors to make contact?

☐ Email
☐ Conference call
☐ Google Hangout
☐ Other, please specifiy: _____

42. What type of additional guidance /support could mentors provide to you professionally as well as in support of your projects? (E.g. help navigating relationships with LPM and others at City Hall? Help with more strategic dimensions of my project? Help with more technical dimensions of my project?)

43. In general, how would you rate your relationship with your LPM?

1-Very Good
2-Good
3-Fair
4-Poor
5-Very Poor

Please explain the positive and/or the negative of your relationship with your LPM:_____

44. In general, are you satisfied with the level of communication with your LPM?

1-Very Satisfied
2-Satisfied
3-Moderately Satisfied
4-Dissatisfied
5-Very Dissatisfied

45. If dissatisfied, please explain:

46. What issues, if any, have you had in working with your LPM or others who directly supervise or manage your work?

☐ Yes
☐ No

47. If so, has it been resolved? How was it resolved? If it is remains unresolved, how can the SC2 Management Team assist?

48. How would you rate your level of contact with your city's Community Solutions Team?

1-Very Frequent
2-Frequent
3-Occasional
4-Rare
5-Never

49. Are you (were you) satisfied with the level of contact with your CST?

1-Very Satisfied
2-Satisfied
3-Moderately Satisfied
4-Dissatisfied
5-Very Dissatisfied

50. Was/Is CST contact important to the success of your project?

1-Very Important
2-Important
3-Moderately Important
4-Of little importance
5-Not at all important

51. Do you believe CST contact/relationship is important to the overall fellowship experience?

1-Very Important
2-Important
3-Moderately Important
4-Of little importance
5-Not at all important

52. If contact would be valuable, do you have ideas on how to enhance and improve CST relationships for future fellowship programs?

53. In general, how satisfied are you with the resources provided through your host institution and other local partners?

1-Very Satisfied
2-Satisfied
3-Moderately Satisfied
4-Dissatisfied
5-Very Dissatisfied

54. Are there any resources not currently provided to you that would be useful?

55. In general, do you find your host institution to have an advantageous (informal or formal) structure and/or organizational culture to hosting fellows? Please explain.

Placement:

Do you believe your placement is a good match:

56. With your current skills?

1-Very good
2-Good
3-Fair
4-Poor
5-Very Poor

57. Substantive interests? (i.e. working on topics or issues familiar to you or that you want to work on)

1-Very good
2-Good
3-Fair
4-Poor
5-Very Poor

58. Current professional development and career goals?

1-Very good
2-Good
3-Fair
4-Poor
5-Very Poor

59. Overall?

1-Very good
2-Good
3-Fair
4-Poor
5-Very Poor

60. How would you rate your placement work's level of difficulty?

☐ Too difficult
☐ Too easy
☐ Acceptable level
☐ Don't know yet

61. How would you rate your work load?

1-Too light
2-Light
3-Acceptable
4-Heavy
5-Too heavy

62. Reflecting back on the first year of the fellowship, knowing that you and your LPM and host agency worked hard to get your fellowship placement up and running, overall, how would you rate your satisfaction with your placement?
1-Very satisfied
2-Satisfied
3-Moderately satisfied
4-Dissatisfied
5-Very dissatisfied