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Grant Lost Because Grantee Failed to Perform Criminal History Checks, Altered Documents and Made False Certifications

DATE ISSUED 08.29.2016

Closed 8/29/16

A joint investigation with PennSERVE: The Governor’s Office of Citizen Service, Harrisburg, PA, found that Communities in Schools of Pennsylvania (CISPA), Harrisburg, PA, failed to conduct critical criminal history checks (CHCs) and falsely certified to CNCS that it was in compliance with all CHC requirements during a Corporation-wide assessment and amnesty. PennSERVE identified irregularities during a fiscal review, in which the reviewers also had difficulty verifying CISPA’s direct expenses and match costs. The grantee thereafter altered documents to falsely create the appearance that it had conducted thorough and timely CHCs. As a result, PennSERVE disallowed a total of \$49,926.39, two-thirds of which related to CHC failures, and declined to renew the grant.

Case ID: 2015-026

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