



Charitable Giving Guide

Plan Your Giving in Advance

Don't respond to mass charity solicitations or high pressure tactics.

Research Charities

Only donations made to qualified charities are tax-deductible. Donors who are not familiar with a charitable organization should verify their 501(c)(3) status and what percentage of their income goes to the charity's purpose. There are several online watchdog websites where donors can verify this information and look over charity reviews, leadership and annual report information.

- [IRS](#)
- [BBB Wise Giving Alliance](#)
- [Guidestar](#)
- [Charity Navigator](#)
- [Charity Watch](#)

[The Office of the Attorney General](#) also maintains information on active charitable organizations registered in Kentucky.

Choose a Cause You Care About

Before making a donation think about the things you care about, decide if you want to support veterans, children, animals, hunger, sickness or other worthy causes. Consider if you want your donation to support a large or small, local, national or international charity.

Decide Your Donation Level

Donate an amount or level you are comfortable with and seek out charities that provide services and results that match your giving goals.

Watch Out for Imposters

Be very cautious of fake websites, social media ads and charities with similar sounding names or concepts. Make sure the website or mailing address you are sending your donation to is the correct, legitimate charity.