



BBB Charity Review Service Fact Sheet

**A community service of your Better Business Bureau
and the Better Business Bureau Consumer Education Fund, Inc.**

What is the local Better Business Bureau's Charity Review Service?

Established in 2002, BBB charity review is the donor information service of the local BBB. Its purpose is to promote public confidence in local charities and to encourage charitable giving. This is accomplished by providing the public with BBB charity reports on publicly soliciting charities. In addition to charity reports, the BBB also provides the public with information on wise giving practices and also advises charities on how to develop and maintain high ethical standards of operations.

Charity reviews are prompted by consumer inquiries and also by charities interested in demonstrating adherence to best practices in their programs and operations. Participating charities submit charity review questionnaires and supporting documentation including financial statements, tax filings, annual reports, and solicitation materials to the BBB. Based on this information, the BBB determines if a charity meets the BBB Standards for Charity Accountability. The BBB then issues a report with its determination relative to compliance with standards along with a summary of the charity's mission, programs, governance, finances, and solicitation practices. BBB charity reports can be accessed on the BBB website at www.louisville.bbb or by calling 502-583-6546.

The BBB reports on publicly soliciting organizations that are tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and other organizations that are conducting charitable solicitations. The BBB does not routinely apply its Standards for Charity Accountability to those organizations that do not receive a substantial portion of their revenues from public support.

Inquirers requesting a charity report or charities interested in participating can initiate the process by contacting Joe Spalding, Director of Charity Review, at (502) 588-0033 or by email to jspalding@louisville.bbb. Additional information about charity review can be accessed on the BBB website at <http://louisville.bbb.org/local-charity-review/>

The charity review process that is implemented locally was developed by the BBB Wise Giving Alliance which is the charity review affiliate of the national Council of Better Business Bureaus. The WGA reviews and reports on charities that conduct fund raising appeals in a number of states and that operate programs that are national in scope. Additional background on charity review and reports on nationally soliciting charities can be accessed on the WGA website at www.give.org or by contacting the BBB Wise Giving Alliance, 4200 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 800, Arlington, VA 22203 or by telephone at 703-276-0100.