



# Tips for Charitable Giving

Investigate before you donate. Some con artists use names similar to well-known charities or pretend to raise money for state or local law enforcement agencies. It is important to be informed when making charitable giving decisions.

## Charitable giving tips

- Ask for written information, including how much of the money raised is actually used for charitable purposes and how much will end up in the hands of the professional fundraiser.
- Be careful with telemarketers requesting contributions - oftentimes the telemarketer keeps a substantial portion of the donation.
- Do not be pressured into making a contribution or pledge.
- Do not feel obligated to send a donation to charities that send token gifts such as key chains, greeting cards, mailing labels, etc.
- Make certain the charitable organization actually serves the need it claims to serve.
- Ask for financial statements of the organization to determine who will benefit from the donations.

## Information Resources

- Visit the Web site at [www.KsCharityCheck.org](http://www.KsCharityCheck.org) or call (785) 296-4564 to find information on charitable organizations registered in Kansas, your rights as a consumer when giving to charities and the Kansas Charitable Organization and Solicitation Act.
- Check the Better Business Bureau and others for information on charities: [www.give.org](http://www.give.org), [www.charitywatch.org](http://www.charitywatch.org), and [www.guidestar.org](http://www.guidestar.org).
- Check out charities [www.give.org](http://www.give.org) for tax deduction qualification, charity ratings and additional information.



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