



INFORMATION FOR ATTORNEYS AND FINANCIAL PLANNERS

AMERICANS RESPOND WITH THEIR HEARTS AND MINDS

National disasters bring out the best in the character of America's citizens, as they rush to the aid of victims of catastrophes such as Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita. But what is the impact of such disasters on fundraising for other philanthropic needs?

Many charities that are not directly involved in Hurricane Katrina relief operation are experiencing a temporary dip in contributions, as oil prices soar and people open their wallets to help hurricane victims. Such dips occurred after the September 2001 terrorist attacks and the December 2004 Indian Ocean tsunamis. Political turmoil, military confrontations and economic turbulence can all affect what types of charities Americans support, but they generally do not cause a sustained drop in the total amount donated to charities.

The overall giving news is good. Americans respond with their hearts and their dollars but don't do so at the expense of other worthy causes. According to Giving USA, overall giving increased by 5% in 2004, a year heavily affected by the tsunami. But this increase did not occur at the expense of other charities.

Most charities saw giving increase in 2004, although some shifts did occur. Recipients in health care saw the greatest increase while those in the human services sector experienced a slight decline. Yet in spite of one of the earth's greatest disasters, charitable giving domestically still increased.

Now that we face the most significant natural disaster of our time, Hurricane Katrina, followed so soon by Hurricane Rita, concerns are again raised. How will hurricane relief efforts affect total charitable giving in the coming year?

First and foremost, our thoughts and prayers go out to the hundreds of thousands of people and their families that have been devastated by these natural disasters. Second, we want to encourage people to continue to give and to be wise in their giving. Proper stewardship of these generous gifts will help all philanthropic organizations for years to come.

Giving trends since 1940 have been analyzed by the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University for the Giving USA Foundation. Overall, donation figures point to the long-enduring generosity of the American public and our belief in the powerful role of the nonprofit charitable sector's work to strengthen communities.

Sources: Giving USA Foundation, Indiana University Center on Philanthropy, & Jeffrey Byrne & Associates, 10/05



*Let your legacy
make a difference in
Chester County*

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YEAR END STOCK GIFTS & WIRE TRANSFERS

Those considering calendar year end stock gifts or wire transfers are asked to please alert the Community Foundation staff by December 1 if at all possible. Thank you!

For a wire transfer of funds from your bank to a fund at the Community Foundation, please give your bank the following information:

Chester County Community Foundation account at First National Bank

First National Bank Acct # 40072001
 West Chester, PA
 ABA Routing # 031904395

For further information, please contact customer service of First National Bank at (484) 881-4440

For a transfer of stock shares from your brokerage account to a fund at the Community Foundation, please give your broker the following information:

Chester County Community Foundation account at Merrill Lynch

DTC# 5198
 Acct # 813-04K10

For further information, please contact Ed Garbarino of Merrill Lynch at (800) 436-7579.

Also, please provide the Community Foundation with the following information so your donation can be accounted for accurately:

1. Donor's Name: _____ Phone: _____
2. Community Foundation Fund Name: _____
- 3a. Amount to endowed fund _____ 3b. Amount to provisional fund _____
4. The name(s) of the stock being donated: _____
5. The approximate value of the stock being donated: _____
6. Stock broker contact info: _____

Please provide this information to:

Karen Simmons, President/CEO (610) 696-8845 karen@chescocf.org or
 Beth Harper Briglia, VP Donor Services/Grants (610) 696-8045 beth@chescocf.org

THANK YOU.

Chester County
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

