

Protect Yourself – Charity Scams

The Community Foundation’s Preventing Financial Scams Initiative protects our community. Here are some tips on charity scams:

Red Flags:

- You are pressured into donating right away.
- You are asked to give cash, prepaid debit cards, or wire money.
- Refuses to share information about the organization’s mission and background and does not answer your calls.
- Will not verify that your donation is tax-deductible and will not provide a gift receipt.
- Cannot provide details on how your information will be used.

What to do:

- Ask for contact information for the charity and research them or search for the charity in the resources below.
- Call the charity directly to verify if the solicitation was legitimate.

Resources:

Community Foundation of Northern
Nevada
Phone: 775-333-5499

Better Business Bureau
Wise Giving Alliance
<http://www.give.org/>

Guidestar
<https://www.guidestar.org/>

IRS
Tax Exempt Organization Search
<https://apps.irs.gov/app/eos/>

Charity Navigator
<https://www.charitynavigator.org/>

Report the scam with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) by calling their Consumer Response Center at 1-877-382-4357 or visiting <https://reportfraud.ftc.gov/#/>. Filing a report can help others from getting scammed and can assist law enforcement with stopping scammers.

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