

## Protect Yourself – Internet and Email Scams

The Community Foundation’s Preventing Financial Scams Initiative protects our community.

### Consumer Financial Protection Bureau Definitions:

Phishing – Authentic looking emails text messages, and Web pages to trick unsuspecting user into revealing their personal financial information.

Email Spoofing – Email address disguised to look like that of someone you know.

- Do not open suspicious messages from unknown sources.
- Do not respond to messages asking to confirm your personal information, such as credit card or bank account numbers or your Social Security number.
- Email is not secure. Do not send financial or sensitive information through email.
- If you receive a surprise email from someone you know asking for money, call them to confirm they sent you the message.
- Scammers may call claiming to be a computer tech. They say they have detected a virus on your computer and need to access your computer to keep you safe. If this happens, hang-up. Legitimate tech support will not contact you out of the blue.
- If you suspect you have been scammed, change your password right away.
- Only give personal information on encrypted website. A site is secure if the web address starts with “https”.

**Reporting:** Filing a report can help others from getting scammed and can assist law enforcement with stopping scammers.

- According to the FTC, “If you got a phishing email, forward it to the Anti-Phishing Working Group at [reportphishing@apwg.org](mailto:reportphishing@apwg.org). If you got a phishing text message, forward it to SPAM (7726).”
- File a complaint at <https://ReportFraud.ftc.gov/#/> or the FBI’s Crime Complaint Center <https://ic3.gov>

50 Washington Street, Suite 300 // Reno, NV 89503// 775-333-5499 // [nevadafund.org](http://nevadafund.org)

*The Community Foundation of Northern Nevada, a 501 (c) 3 organization, is established to strengthen communities in our region through leadership and philanthropy. Your contribution may be tax-deductible under federal law. The information provided on this flyer does not, and is not intended to, constitute legal advice; instead, all information, content, and materials available on this flyer are for general informational purposes only.*