



## Charity Information Network

BBB Serving Central Ohio 1335 Dublin Rd., Suite 30-A, Columbus, OH 43215 [www.centralohiobb.org](http://www.centralohiobb.org)

### Tips for Better Giving

**1. DO watch out for similar names.**

Check the name carefully, because the charity soliciting you may not be the one you have in mind.

**2. DON'T be pressured to make an immediate gift.**

Charities should welcome your gift whenever you want to send it.

**3. DO question vague appeals.**

Watch out for appeals that are long on emotion, but short on details.

**4. DON'T give out personal information to phone solicitors.**

Don't give out credit card numbers, checking account numbers, or any other personal information to unknown telephone solicitors.

**5. DO write a check.**

Be cautious about giving cash, and write out the check to the charity, not to the fundraiser.

**6. DO keep records of your donation.**

Ask for a receipt if you want a tax-deduction.

**7. DO make sure the organization is a charity if you want a tax-deduction.**

Most appeals will indicate if your gifts are tax-deductible.

**8. DON'T hesitate to ask for written information.**

Most organizations will be glad to tell you more.

**9. DO report bad practices.**

Contact your Better Business Bureau and your state's Attorney General about solicitation problems.