



**United Way of Greater Philadelphia &
Southern New Jersey
DONOR CHOICE PROGRAM
*Guidelines on Agency Eligibility, Program Policies and
Administration***

OUR MISSION

To harness, leverage and strategically invest the collective power of donors, advocates, and volunteers, to drive measurable results that improve the lives of people in our region.

ACHIEVING OUR MISSION

How can we accomplish so much in our community? The answer is simple: community agencies, volunteers and donors make it happen. They allow us to achieve our goals and fulfill our mission.

DONOR CHOICE PROGRAM

United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey ("United Way") mounts a community-wide campaign each year to raise funds from companies, foundations and individuals for human health and social services. Our Donor Choice program provides donors with an opportunity to direct their gift to specific non-profit health and human service organizations of personal interest to them. This program is a value-add to both our donors and participating agencies. For donors, this program provides the option to donate to their favorite charity through their workplace campaign in a simple, cost-effective manner. For agencies, not only does United Way's fundraising provide access to many venues, but it also provides access to unrestricted funding. Unrestricted funding is traditionally the most difficult funding to raise in any community. More than 8,000 agencies receive gifts on an annual basis through the United Way Campaign.

After more than 25 years of operation, the Donor Choice program continues to be a popular service with United Way donors, especially those who give at the workplace through payroll deduction. More than 8,000 such organizations receive gifts each year through the United Way Campaign.

United Way can only transmit to agencies those gifts that United Way receives. Some pledges are never paid to United Way for a variety of reasons, most notably donors leaving their jobs. Of the gifts that United Way receives, we will pay over eighty-seven cents of every dollar to the designated agency. The 15 percent administrative fee that is retained by the United Way covers the cost of raising the funds and processing fees.

Most donors pay their pledges through payroll deduction over the course of the following calendar year. Most employers aggregate these deductions and remit them to the United Way on a monthly or quarterly basis. That said, a pledge made in the Fall of a given year may not be fully paid until the following Spring. United Way makes every effort to transmit donor designated gifts in as timely a manner as is consistent with low administrative fees for recipient agencies.

This booklet provides a full overview of Donor Choice policies and administrative procedures.

SECTION I

REQUIREMENTS FOR AGENCY ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION

APPLICATION PROCESS

The typical application flow is as follows:

- ⇒ A request received from agency, either online at www.unitedforimpact.org or through the mail. Requests from agencies must be accompanied by a \$200 check to cover processing costs.
- ⇒ Application completed and returned to United Way, within four weeks, with all required attachments
- ⇒ Application reviewed for completeness and compliance

CORE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

For an agency to be eligible, each element of the core criteria must be met. An agency must:

- have a federal tax exempt/tax deductible status of 501(c)(3),
- completed ACH Credit Authorization form, and;
- comply with the provisions of the USA Patriot Act. USA Patriot Act compliance is assessed through review of the OFAC terror watch lists. USA Patriot Act compliance is re-assessed annually.

Note Agencies with tax exempt/tax deductible status other than 501(c)(3) are not eligible for designation through the United Way Campaign. This ruling by our Board of Directors ensures a full tax deduction for our donors, and program consistency with the mission of United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey.

CONTINUITY OF ELIGIBILITY

Eligible organizations retain their status until such time as there is a change in their original qualifying status. Payments to agencies are subject to ethics and legal scrutiny. Agencies having their 501(c)(3) status revoked by the IRS will be suspended from eligibility. Agencies under investigation for any criminal, fraudulent, or questionable behavior or having governmental revocation of their license will be suspended from eligibility. Verification of 501(c)(3) status takes place at various points during a given year. Additionally, a full formal review and verification of eligibility will occur over at least a 5-year cycle or anytime eligibility is in question. All eligibility reviews will be conducted in advance of the campaign so agencies will know of their status before the official campaign period.

AGENCY ID NUMBER

All eligible organizations are assigned an ID or “book” number, which remains consistent from year to year. Use of this number increases accuracy on the donor’s part when designating, since many agencies have similar names. Occasionally, modifications to our agency database may require the assignment of a new ID number; if this occurs the agency will be notified in writing.

APPEALS PROCESS

An applicant can appeal a decision that their agency is ineligible to receive designations by submitting in writing all pertinent information that will clarify or supplement the original application, enabling UWGPSNJ to reach a favorable decision. Appeals may be submitted to:

United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey
1800 JFK Boulevard, Suite 1200
Philadelphia, PA 19103

SECTION II

DONOR CHOICE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

DONOR CONFIRMATION

UWGPSNJ will confirm each pledge and designation directly with the donor, promptly upon processing of the donor's pledge information. Receipt of the confirmation is affected by delays in receiving the pledge data from the employer; however, every effort is made to promptly issue these notices. The confirmation provides the donor with an opportunity to verify the recorded information.

Except in situations in which the donor wishes to remain anonymous or prefers not to be acknowledged for his or her gift, United Way requests that agencies send confirmation, or thank-you letter to the donor. **Agencies are expected to thank and recognize donors for the gross amount of the gift as soon as the agency is notified of the gift.** This practice allows donors to be recognized for the full amount of their gift (made in good faith) regardless of United Way's distribution schedule. Additionally, the recognition amount should not be reduced by United Way's administrative costs. The administrative fee is a cost to the organizations participating in this program. Thanking donors for the full amount of the gift minimizes frustration and confusion for donors. No information pertaining to tax deductibility should be included in the agency thank you letter because tax documentation is managed by United Way.

POLICY ON MINIMUM DONATION AMOUNT

The minimum donation to each Donor Choice agency is \$50 per donor, due to the fundraising, processing and administrative costs involved in managing each separate gift.

PLEDGE COLLECTIONS

UWGPSNJ is responsible for the collection process, which includes sending billing statements, as well as personal follow-up for consistently lagging pledge payments. **Agencies are not permitted to send billing or collection notices to any donors directly.**

DONOR TAX RECEIPTS

UWGPSNJ will send each donor a tax receipt for non-payroll payments as required by IRS regulations. **Agencies are not permitted to send tax documentation to any donors directly.**

AGENCY NOTIFICATION OF DESIGNATIONS AND DONOR INFORMATION

Lists of donors and their gifts to your agency are available through United Way's online Agency Reporting System. This system gives agencies up-to-date donor listings, as well as providing pay-out reports. Each agency is provided with a secure and unique access code to this system, which enables it to view just its own information and to view it as frequently as desired. **We strongly encourage you to visit the site frequently to ensure that you have the most up to date donor information.**

Instructions for UWGPSNJ's online Agency Reporting System

1. Go to: www.unitedforimpact.org/reporting OR
From UWGPSNJ website www.unitedforimpact.org
 - a. Click on Agency Home.
 - b. Select Agency Reports Login – This will open the United Way e-Business Portal.
2. Enter your User ID and Password. (See the frequently asked questions section if you need assistance in determining your user id or password.)
3. Click Login.

Reports (All reports are subject to change)

- **Donor List (Acknowledgements to Agencies Report):** This report lists all donors and amounts of designations to your organization and should be used when generating thank

you letters to your donors. The report is divided into three sections: (1) Donors who wish to remain anonymous, (2) Donors who have authorized the release of their name to the agency, but do not want to be acknowledged, and (3) Donors who have authorized the release of their name and have requested an acknowledgement. This report can be generated at any time and is available in .PDF and .CSV.

This report should be used when generating thank you letters to your donors. It lists all the designations to your organization with the amounts designated and the number of donors.

- **Payment Detail (DCP Payee Report by Organization):** This report shows the administrative expenses and payments due to the agency and lists all donors grouped by organization. It will assist the agency with determining how the payment was calculated for the current pay-out. The donor's organization is not disclosed in the report.

Additional Portal Options

- **My Submitted Reports:** To view submitted and completed reports.
- **Maintain Contact Information:** Maintain your agency's employee contacts here. To receive email notifications when a deposit is made someone will need to be entered as the *Finance Contact*.

To add a Finance Contact:

- Click on Add Contact
 - Click Add New Contact
 - Enter at least the Name, Email address, & Contact Type
 - Select Finance Contact as the Contact Type
 - Click Add Selected Contact
- **Maintain Banking Information (ACH):** You enter your agency's banking information to receive ACH Deposits.

Questions and concerns, login assistance, and technical support may be directed to donorservices@unitedforimpact.org.

PROMOTIONAL GUIDELINES FOR PARTICIPATING AGENCIES

United Way administers a single Campaign at the workplace that mobilizes and facilitates giving to over 8,000 health and human service agencies each year. To keep non-profit fundraising costs low and provide an equal opportunity for all participating organizations to compete, the following marketing guidelines have been established in the best interests of the system.

Agencies receiving funds from the United Way Campaign should not:

1. approach employer(s) regarding a workplace campaign on the organization's behalf,
2. purchase advertising that promotes the organization's donor designation number during the period September 30 through November 30, in mass media targeted to the public such as television, major newspapers or billboards; and / or,
3. ask United Way donors to give to directly instead of as part of the United Way Campaign, or otherwise discourage donors from participating in the United Way Campaign.

United Way asks that agencies receiving funds from the Campaign comply with these guidelines to be included in our Campaign marketing.

USE OF THE UNITED WAY LOGO

The United Way logo is a trademark copyright of United Way of America. Use of the logo is restricted to United Ways except by express written agreement.

SECTION III

PROGRAM COSTS & PAYMENT OF DONOR DESIGNATIONS

FUNDRAISING & ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS

Fundraising, processing, and administrative costs are recovered through a charge that is applied as a percentage of each donor gift. The cost is calculated annually and approved by the United Way Board. This information is communicated to recipient agencies with the first payment on designations.

PAYMENT OF DESIGNATIONS

Payments to designated agencies for each Fall's campaign will be paid by ACH on a quarterly basis starting in December of that campaign year.

The minimum payment amount to a designated agency is \$50 until the final payment for that campaign, which is typically 18 months after the campaign start date. Payments are based on pledges paid.

UNCOLLECTIBLE PLEDGES

United Way pays agencies based upon actual collections from donors whenever donor level detail is provided. When donor payment details or termination data is not provided on payroll payments, those payments are applied proportionately to all payroll donors for that company. As such, all gifts will share in the overall uncollectible rate of the company's payroll deduction pledges. The application of that uncollectible rate may be spread across all donors in that company but is not spread or projected across the entire Campaign. **It is important to note that uncollectible amounts are not a "charge" taken by United Way. United Way pays all dollars that are received above our administrative costs.**

Prior collection experience has demonstrated that 7% - 8% of designated gifts that are pledged will not be paid to United Way. The primary reasons are pledge cancellation by the donor, corporate downsizings, plant or business closings, employer relocation, and donors who change employers during the payment cycle and cannot be located. Agencies should therefore expect to receive, on average, approximately 77% of total dollars pledged (the other 23 percent comprised of 8 percent never paid by the donor and the 15 percent administrative fee). It is important to note, however, that this will vary dramatically based upon the payment type. Donors paying by cash, check or credit card are less likely to be unpaid, as they are mostly collected up front. It is payroll donors who are more likely to have an uncollectible balance because these dollars are collected over the course of the year FOLLOWING the year in which the pledge is made (see below) and the fact that their company may not provide United Way with employee payment detail (see above).

FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR PAYMENT

Because United Way payments to agencies are based on the amount **received** in any collection period, the donor's method of payment will impact when dollars reach the agency.

Designations paid by cash, check, credit cards, securities transfer, and directly billed donors

These pledge payments will be remitted to the recipient agency in the next regularly scheduled payment, less the standard administrative & fundraising cost, after receipt of the payment. For example, Donor X pledges \$100 through the Fall United Way Campaign and pays the entire amount by check in November. The recipient agency will receive \$85.00 through the first ACH payout in December, which represents the entire amount due.

Designations paid by payroll deduction withholdings

Approximately 80% of donors pay their pledge through payroll deduction, which is convenient for donors. The following factors impact when agencies receive payment:

- the frequency of payroll withholding payments from the Company to United Way (does the company remit the withholding to United Way on a monthly, quarterly, semi-annual, or annual basis?)
- the overall internal collection experience of each Company (were there layoffs, or business reorganizations?)

United Way's administrative costs are recovered up front. Example: An agency receives a \$1,000 designation and our fee is 15%. The first payment we receive is a check of \$200. United Way will retain \$150 (15% of \$1,000) and \$50 will be paid to the agency. Thereafter, the agency will receive the entire amount of each payment.

Most companies remit payroll payments to United Way in lump sum, versus including payment detail by donor. As such, payroll payments are spread proportionately across ALL payroll donors for that company. The actual payment by donor may vary from the amount deducted from their pay because of the overall uncollectible payroll payment rate for that company being applied to ALL payroll donors at that company.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. How do I get a list of my donors?

An up-to date list of donors can be generated online at any time. This list can be obtained by running the Donor List (Acknowledgements to Agencies Report) in our online reporting tool.

2. How do I access online reporting?

- a. Go to: www.unitedforimpact.org/reporting or from website www.unitedforimpact.org
 - ♦ Click on Agency Home
 - ♦ Select Agency Reports Login – This will open the United Way e-Business Portal.
- b. Enter your User ID and Password
- c. Click Login

3. I do not know my User ID and Password. How do I get that information?

If you do not know the agency's United Way account number or experience any problems logging in, please email donorservices@unitedforimpact.org.

4. I do not see John Smith, but I know he designated to us. Why isn't he on the report?

There are several reasons that a donor may not appear on the report including, but not limited to:

- a. The donor may have requested to be anonymous.
- b. United Way may not have received the donor details from the company yet.

5. Why haven't I received the money for Brian Q. Donor?

- a. A lot of factors affect how quickly the agency will receive money for individual donations including, but not limited to:
- b. The donor may have requested to be billed, and payment has not been received.
- c. The timing between when United Way receives the payroll check from the company or the payment from the donor and United Way's pay-out cycle.
- d. The amount due to the agency is below the minimum payout amount.
- e. United Way deducts expenses from the first dollars in, which reduces the total amount due in the first pay-out.

6. Why are so many of my donors "anonymous"?

When large numbers of donors from a particular company are labeled anonymous, it is usually because of a decision that their employer has made regarding confidentiality.

7. My report is blank. Does that mean I do not have any donors?

Please ensure the report was generated for the correct campaign year. There is a possibility that United Way did not process any designations for your agency at the time the report was generated. If you know you have received designations, but your report is still blank, please contact donorservices@unitedforimpact.org.

8. When I ran my report in August, I had five donors. Now I only have three donors. What happened?

Online reporting allows the agency to view donor details as quickly as United Way process it. This means that results are subject to change. The donor may have changed their designation to a different agency or cancelled their pledge.