

### WHAT IS A PHILANTHROPY ACCOUNT?

At United Way of Rhode Island (United Way) we have a special personal giving program for those individuals who make a pledge of at least \$1,000. Your personal Philanthropy Account allows you to consolidate your overall charitable giving into one account and recommend distributions to charitable organizations over the course of the calendar year. This service is provided free of charge to our leadership donors, but we do suggest a 10% contribution to United Way's Community Impact Fund as part of your philanthropy.

These Philanthropy Account Guidelines describe the philanthropy fund program of United Way, as well as important policies, procedures, and benefits associated with establishing and maintaining a Philanthropy Account. All activities of United Way's Philanthropy Account program are subject to the terms and conditions of this document. United Way reserves the right to modify the program at any time [as IRS and regulatory changes may require or the UWRI prescribes from time to time](#).

You may establish a Philanthropy Account by completing a [Donor Advised Fund Agreement](#) form and providing an initial contribution of a minimum of \$1,000. Once United Way accepts your contribution, it is irrevocable and is owned and held by United Way. Your Philanthropy Account held at United Way is classified as a Donor Advised Fund (by Internal Revenue Code) and as such, contributions to United Way, through this fund are irrevocable and are immediately tax deductible to the fullest extent under the law.

#### **Philanthropy Account contributions are not refundable.**

Any balance remaining on the account at the end of the calendar year (December 31st) will be transferred to United Way's Community Impact Fund. In the event of the death of a donor(s), all remaining funds will be transferred to United Way's Community Impact Fund.

### BENEFITS

- Personalized service: there is a dedicated Philanthropy Account Manager, a full-time staff person, who provides the day-to-day administration of all Philanthropy Accounts at United Way.
- Ease of advising and recommending gift distributions using your personalized "PIN" number; simply by notifying the United Way by telephone, e-mail, fax, postal mail or on the United Way website.
- Quarterly statements are provided plus a complete year-end statement showing all distributions made to date for easy recordkeeping.
- Easy payment options including payroll deduction, credit cards, checks, securities and monthly billing.
- A confirmation letter for each distribution made will be sent to you. It will indicate the check number, date of the check, amount, agency name and any special instructions that you may have requested.
- A distribution package will be mailed to you every January.

### PROGRAM BASICS

- Recommendations on distributions must be a minimum of \$25.
- United Way verifies that the receiving organization is a qualified 501(c) 3 according to the IRS Tax Code laws.
- Within 7 -10 business days of the receipt of your [recommendation](#), your gift will be mailed to its designation and notification will be sent to you and the recipient organization. Additionally, we will send you quarterly statements of your account activities in early April, July and October. In late January, you will receive a complete record of your account for the previous calendar year.

### DISTRIBUTIONS, RESTRICTIONS & CONFIRMATION

As a donor, you may recommend distributions from your Philanthropy Account to qualified charitable organizations. These are organizations described in Internal Revenue Code (IRC) section 501(c)(3) to which contributions are tax deductible and that qualify as public charities within IRC section 170(B)(1)(A).

Recommendations shall be submitted to United Way via United Way's online website, e-mail, fax, voicemail or mail of a completed Philanthropy Account Distribution Request Form. Once approved by the Philanthropy Account Manager, the proceeds will be disbursed to the recommended organization. In the event that a recommended distribution cannot be approved, United Way will notify you within 10 business days from the date the recommendation is received.

Below are the exceptions for which United Way can not process your recommended distribution.

1. Distributions may not be used to pay any legally binding pledge or to provide any private benefit (such as school tuition or scholarships sent directly to individuals, dues, membership fees, benefit tickets, or goods bought at charitable auctions).
2. For charitable events, distributions are not permitted to purchase goods/services or fees (i.e., purchase of tickets, fees to play golf in a tournament), only the charitable portion going to the organization is permitted (per IRS regulation).
3. Distributions may not be used for political contributions or to support political campaign activities.

4. United Way must make distribution checks payable to the recipient organization's legal name, which may be different from the common use name, and must mail each check to the organization's official address.
5. Distributions to educational organizations outside of Rhode Island are limited to scholarship funds and educational foundations.
6. Donations to religious organizations are limited to social service agencies and general fund drives only (i.e.: Catholic Charities Fund Appeal, Jewish Federation, etc.). Gifts to individual places of worship are not eligible.

### CONTACT US

For more information about the Philanthropy Account, please contact:

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