 United Way of Licking County

Hot Topics

ISSUE

The Boy Scouts -Simon Kenton Council did not receive UWLC allocations for the 2013-14 funding cycle. ***In the 2016 funding cycle UWLC funded the Simon Kenton Council Boy Scouts under the Children, Youth and Families.***

Response

In 2013, UWLC required all organizations requesting funding for the 2013-14 cycle, sign the UWLC Diversity and Inclusivity Policy adopted in 2009. The BSA voted to open scouting to homosexual youth but not to include gay leaders. The Boy Scouts of Simon Kenton Council did not provide a signed copy of the UWLC Diversity and Inclusion Policy, therefore did not meet the UWLC funding requirements.

*Talking Points*

* UWLC supports programs and initiatives that focus on three pillars which are: Behavioral Health, Youth, Families and Children and Poverty.
* UWLC has and does value and seek to foster inclusivity and diversity in working to improve the lives of **all** the people of our community. We believe that every person deserves access to the resources regardless of race, creed, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, disability, marital status, veteran status, national origin or age.
* UWLC’s relationship with Simon Kenton Council continues to be positive and we are hopeful to reestablish our relationship in the future. The boy scouts have been a valued partner with UWLC for almost 80 years. Throughout this time they have provided wonderful programs that have helped support and foster the development of boys as they grow into adulthood.
* Donors can continue to support Boy Scouts through designated donations and UWLC will continue to direct funds.
* We realize that the recent policy decision by the boy scouts has caused a variety of responses nationwide and locally. We acknowledge the discussions around this issue are hard ones because of the deep held personal positions and beliefs of individuals regarding sexual orientation.

ISSUE:

The United Way of Licking County Funds Abortions.

RESPONSE

Beginning in 1967, the United Way of Licking County (UWLC) funded a women’s health program thru the local chapter of Planned Parenthood (PP). Funding expanded to include a prenatal and well child clinic. In 1993, when PP would no longer continue the well child clinic, Family Health Services (FHS) was formed and disaffiliated from PP. FHS continued to provide health care services for women and their children until State funding cuts eliminated the well child clinic. The local PP and FHS have never provided abortions and United Way of Licking County does not and has never funded any programs that provide abortions.

ISSUE

William Aramony, CEO OF UWA (United Way of America) charged with misuse of United Way funds in1991.

RESPONSE

In 1995 Mr. Aramony, CEO, was convicted on counts of conspiracy and was found guilty of misusing funds. Mr. Aramony spent 7 years in prison and was ordered to re-pay the funds. United Way of America and the local United Way organizations have rigid standards of operations and financial oversight to ensure that scandals like this are not repeated. There has never been any type of scandal surrounding the Licking County United Way since its establishment in 1933.

ISSUE:

How much of my gift actually goes to supportive services?

RESPONSE:

Currently 80% goes directly to services. 10% of your dollars goes to administrative costs and another 10% is used in fundraising.

ISSUE:

Why shouldn’t I just give directly to my favorite charitable agency?

RESPONSE:

Improving and impacting a life for the long run often requires that a person receive multiple services that work together.

ISSUE:

How is the money raised through the annual United Way Campaign invested?

RESPONSE:

Through our community impact process we evaluate and award dollars to programs that show measurable outcomes in aligning with our identified priorities.

ISSUE:

What if I don’t feel I can afford to give?

RESPONSE:

There are many ways to give other than dollars but rather volunteer or advocate.

ISSUE:

Why does United Way keep asking for more money each year?

RESPONSE:

Because we award dollars out each year and we must continue to raise money each year.

ISSUE:

Does designating my pledge create any problems?

RESPONSE:

You can certainly designate but it lessens the amount that will go perhaps to the programs that are strongest and align the best with the priorities.