



OhioGuidestone
SOLUTIONS FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES
& COMMUNITIES

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For Immediate Release: Better Business Bureau Encourages Giving to Accredited Charities, Including OhioGuidestone

(November 2014) – For the past eight years, OhioGuidestone has successfully met all 20 voluntary Better Business Bureau (BBB) Standards for Charity Accountability. Standards focus on financial, management, and fund raising practices. Meeting these standards demonstrates legitimacy and efficiency, and provides confidence to those looking to give to a worthy cause.

The Better Business Bureau has recently outlined the importance of meeting these standards, encouraging those individuals and organizations who want to give to look for charities with Better Business Bureau accreditation. This message is especially important during the holidays, one of the busiest giving seasons of the year. More information regarding the Better Business Bureau's charitable giving tips and currently accredited charities can be found on the attached page.

According to the Better Business Bureau, "The Standards for Charity Accountability were developed with professional and technical assistance from representatives of small and large charitable organizations, accountants, grant making foundations, corporate contributions officers, regulatory agencies, research organizations, and the BBBs."

To learn more about OhioGuidestone giving opportunities, please contact Laurel Wirtanen-Siloy, *Director of Advancement*, at 440.260.8357 or Laurel.Wirtanen-Siloy@OhioGuidestone.org.



Look for BBB Accredited Charities
this Holiday Season,

And Give With Confidence!



Charitable Giving Tips

As the holiday season approaches, businesses and consumers throughout northeast Ohio will once again open their hearts - and their wallets - to those in need. If you're considering a charitable donation this year, follow these simple BBB tips for confident holiday giving:

- **Give, but give wisely!** Make sure to visit bbb.org/cleveland to view BBB Charity Reviews before making a donation decision. BBB evaluates participating charities for their compliance with BBB's Standards for Charity Accountability
- **Be wary of sound-a-likes.** With so many charities in existence, mistaken identity is a common problem. Make sure you are donating to the right charity, not one you think sounds like a reputable charity.
- **Resist pressure to give on the spot.** A telemarketer, an in-person solicitation, a text message, even a cashier at the checkout line - all present an opportunity for a quick donation but limit your ability to do any research.
- **Be cautious with cause marketing.** Many products claim some portion of the purchase price or other proceeds will go to a certain charity or cause. Make sure there is a disclosure of the actual or anticipated amount of your purchase that will go to charity.
- **Consider donating your time.** Many charities appreciate volunteers around the holidays, but check first and be sure to coordinate with the charity beforehand.



BBB Accredited Charities



The organizations listed below have undergone a rigorous evaluation in relation to holistic standards that address finances, effectiveness reporting, honesty in fundraising appeals, donor privacy and charity governance.

- [The Arc of Greater Cleveland](#)
- [Boys & Girls Clubs of Cleveland](#)
- [Care Alliance Health Center](#)
- [The City Mission](#)
- [Cleveland Christian Home, Inc.](#)
- [Cleveland Sight Center](#)
- [Cornerstone Pregnancy Services](#)
- [Diabetes Partnership of Cleveland](#)
- [Golden Age Centers](#)
- [Golden Retrievers In Need](#)
- [Rescue Service, Inc.](#)
- [Greater Cleveland Habitat for Humanity](#)
- [Greater Cleveland Volunteers](#)
- [HELP Foundation, Inc.](#)
- [Lake-Geauga Center on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse](#)
- [Love INC](#)
- [Lupus Foundation of America, Inc. Greater Ohio Chapter](#)
- [Neighborhood Alliance](#)
- [The Northern Ohio Hemophilia Foundation, Inc.](#)
- [Ohio Guidestone](#)
- [Paralyzed Veterans of America, Buckeye Chapter](#)
- [Second Harvest Food Bank of North Central Ohio](#)
- [Shoes and Clothes for Kids](#)
- [Slavic Village Development](#)
- [United Cerebral Palsy Association of Greater Cleveland](#)
- [United Way of Greater Cleveland](#)
- [United Way of Greater Lorain County](#)
- [United Way of Lake County, Inc.](#)