

A Donor Bill of Responsibilities

PHILANTHROPY is based on voluntary action for the common good. It is a tradition of giving and sharing that is primary to the quality of life. To ensure that philanthropy merits the respect and trust of the general public, and that **governments and their citizens** can have full confidence that **the tax benefits provided to donors result in appropriate public benefit**, we declare that all donors have these **responsibilities**:

I.

To *publicly communicate the donor's mission, the way the donor prioritizes allocation of tax-exempt resources, and the way that it ensures maximum contribution to the public interest.*

II.

To *publicly communicate the identity of those serving on its governing board, and to expect the board to exercise prudent judgement in its stewardship responsibilities to the public interest.*

III.

To *publicly communicate its most recent financial statements.*

IV.

To *publicly communicate and implement methods for prioritizing and measuring the effectiveness of funding strategies.*

V.

To *acknowledge and recognize the responsibilities conferred with tax-exempt status.*

VI.

To *handle information about their grantees with respect and with confidentiality to the extent provided by law.*

VII.

To *ensure that all relationships with individuals representing organizations of interest to the donor are professional in nature.*

VIII.

To *publicly communicate whether funding decisions have been influenced by any factors other than the public interest.*

IX.

To *provide opportunities for citizens and government representatives to gain insight into their operations and decision-making.*

X.

To *provide prompt, truthful and forthright answers to questions received from citizens and government representatives.*

ADAPTED BY TRUTHSTUDIO
FROM WORK BY

Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP)
Association for Healthcare Philanthropy (AHP)
Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE)
Giving Institute: Leading Consultants to Non-Profits

POTENTIALLY OF INTEREST TO

Independent Sector
National Catholic Development Conference (NCDC)
National Committee on Planned Giving (NCPG)
Council for Resource Development (CRD)
United Way of America