



MARION POLICE DEPARTMENT

Formal Recommendation Report

Memo

Date: July 11, 2007
To: David Gilbert, Chief of Police
From: Cliff Sessoms, Deputy Chief of Police
Subject: Formal Recommendation Report for this Year's Charitable Donation

I have finished the research concerning the donation of \$10,000 toward a worthy charity. In keeping with your wishes and the mission of our organization to reach out to the youth – in particular victims of abuse, I found what I believe to be a very worthy charity.

As you may know there are many worthwhile organizations in our community and throughout our country. The choice was not easy and somewhat overwhelming, so with that in mind I began my research by consulting Mrs. Jill Smith at the Community Foundation of Grant County. Mrs. Smith assisted me in narrowing my search to three organizations:

1. Save the Children
2. Feed the Children
3. Childhelp®.

After careful consideration and much research I have decided that Childhelp® is a better fit for what we want to accomplish with our donation. Please review the attached recommendation report which contains detailed information on my choice.

Recommendation Report for 2007 Charitable Donation

Prepared for: David M. Gilbert, Chief of Police

Prepared by: Cliff Sessoms, Deputy Chief of Police

July 11, 2007



MARION POLICE DEPARTMENT

301 South Branson Street
Marion, Indiana 46952

(765) 668-4412
marionindiana.us

Informative Abstract

“Formal Recommendation Report for 2007 Charitable Donation”

Prepared by: Cliff Sessoms

On July 1st of this year you sent to me a memo requesting that I research a worthy charitable organization in which you wanted to donate \$10,000. The only requirement set forth by you, is that the organization must be focused on helping young people who have been exposed to abuse or a victim of a traumatic event in their life. Admittedly, I am new at making such recommendations, so I sought help from Jill Smith, our local community foundation director who gave me 3 very worthwhile organizations. My main focus in coming to a decision is based on the following 3 questions: does the organization focus on helping the youth, do most of the funds go toward helping the youth, and is the organization reputable? After receiving the recommendations from Ms. Smith I began my research by looking up all 3 organizations on the internet. I found that all of the organizations focused on helping children in need and that all three claim that 90% of all donations go directly to helping the children. However, only 1 appears to be more in-line with our organizations mission and desire to have an affect on fighting crime in our community. It is because of their work with children who are victims of crime that I chose Childhelp® as the charitable organization to receive the generous gift of \$10,000.

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Introduction

On July 1, 2007 I was notified by you that I was to research and make a recommendation on who should be awarded the \$10,000 charitable donation for this year. In keeping with your wishes I narrowed my search to organizations that focus on helping the youth. With the help of Community Foundation Director Jill Smith, I chose 3 worthwhile organizations. Through my search of each organization's website I learned a little more about their mission and their work when it comes to helping children.

According to the U.S Department of Justice, data recorded from 12 states between 1991 and 1996 showed 67% of all victims of sexual assaults were under the age of 18 and 40% of the offenders who victimized children under 6 were under the age of 18 (**BUREAU OF JUSTICE**). With your recommendation we hope to reach those children before they become victims and for those who already have become victims we hope our donation will help prevent them from becoming offenders.

Save the Children began in 1932 by a group of citizens who were concerned with the plight of people living in Appalachia during the Great Depression. It has since grown to become an international organization which operates in 110 countries throughout the world (**SAVE THE CHILDREN**). Their main focus tends to be on health and education, both very worthwhile needs.

Feed the Children began in 1979 and is a Christian based organization with its headquarters in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. It is an international organization which has helped children in 118 countries. Their main focus is on feeding and clothing children throughout the world (**FEED THE CHILDREN**).

I concluded that Childhelp® is the organization that better fits into our mission of helping the youth. Founded in 1959 Childhelp® is dedicated to helping young people who are victims of abuse and neglect. They offer a 24 hour a day, 7 days a week hotline for abused children, along with such services as children advocacy centers, and child abuse prevention and education training(Childhelp®).

I therefore recommend that Childhelp® be awarded the \$10,000 charitable donation for 2007.

In the following section, I have included information about my research methods, the results, the conclusions, and my recommendation.

Research Methods

In order to decide which organization would benefit from the 2007 charitable donation, I performed the following research:

1. In order to narrow the search, I contacted Ms. Jill Smith of the Community Foundation of Grant County. She recommended 3 organizations which fit our criteria.
2. I formulated 3 questions that needed to be answered during the course of the research:
 - Does the organization focus on helping the youth?
 - Do most of the funds go towards helping the youth?
 - Is the organization reputable?
3. I located the home pages for all three organizations and researched the following:
 - What is their mission statement?
 - Do they have a financial statement?
 - Do they have success stories of how donations have helped their cause?
4. Finally, I analyzed the data, drew conclusions, and decided on a recommendation.

Results

The result of my research is included in this section. I will identify the best choice for the organization who should receive the \$10,000 donation for 2007.

1. Does the organization focus on youth?

All three organizations focus on helping the youth. The difference is in how they help the youth, with Save the Children and Feed the Children focusing mostly on feeding and clothing children, and Childhelp® focusing on abused and neglected children.

2. Does most of the organizations donation go toward helping the youth?

Each organization boasts between 85% and 90% of all donations going toward helping the child. Included in Figure 1 on page 10 is a chart for each organization breaking down their financial report.

3. Is the organization Reputable?

All three organizations are reputable organizations committed to helping youth.

4. Identifying Our Best Option

I researched 3 different charitable organizations.

- *Save the Children.* This is very worthwhile organization that does focus on helping the youth. They are a reputable organization that has been in business for 75 years and have been responsible for feeding and clothing children around the world. A much needed cause but not in line with helping abused children.
- *Feed the Children.* This too is a very worthwhile organization that focuses on helping the youth. They also are a reputable organization that has been in

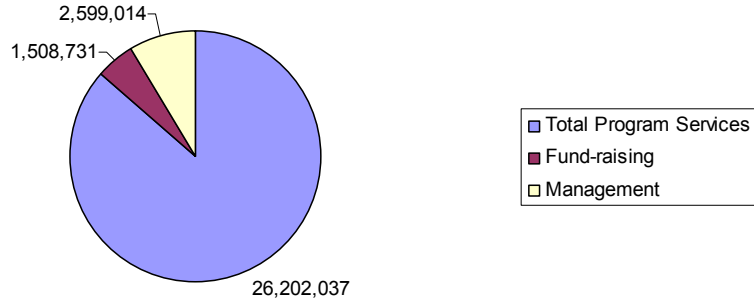
business for 28 years. Like Save the Children their focus is on feeding and clothing the children around the world. Likewise a much needed cause but not in line with helping abused children.

- *Childhelp*®. This organization not only focuses on the youth but they focus on youth who have been victims or abuse or neglect. They also try to give potential victims access to help, by way of their 24 hour a day, 7 day a week hotline and they focus on preventing abuse through education and training.

Figure 1 Financial Report for Three Organizations

Childhelp® Fiscal Year 2006 (“Financial Efficiency”, screen 3)

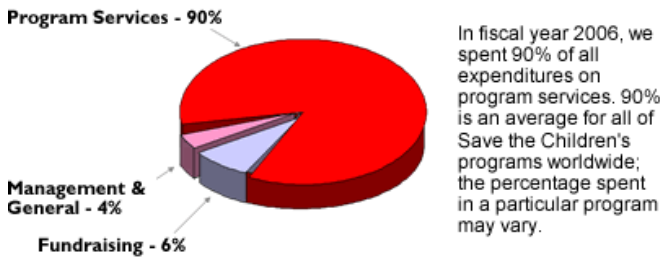
Childhelp® Fiscal Year 2006



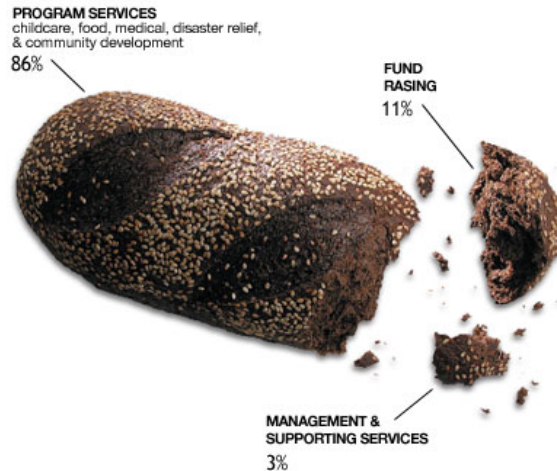
Save the Children Fiscal Year 2006 (“Financial Information”, screen 3)

How We Use Our Funds — 90% on Program Services

You can be assured that Save the Children spends its dollars efficiently



Feed the Children Fiscal Year 2006 (“Accountability”, screen 2)



Conclusions

All 3 organizations are reputable and worthwhile organizations which focus on helping youth who are in need of care. Both Save a Child and Feed a Child focus on helping children by clothing and feeding them along with providing shelter in some cases.

Only Childhelp® fits into our idea of helping abused and neglected children. Their focus is helping the child who has already been abused by assisting them in getting out of the abusive relationship and education those children who have not yet been victimized.

Recommendation

I recommend Childhelp® as organization who should receive the \$10,000 charitable donation from our company. They are a reputable organization which focuses on helping children who are victims of abuse and neglect. Over the past 5 years nearly 90% of all donations to this organization have been spent in assisting the child.

Obviously, the mission of our department is to prevent crime before it happens. By helping children who have been abused by removing them from the abusive environment and educating them on reporting abuse to the proper authorities, it is our hope they will not become abusers themselves, thus breaking the chain of violence. Of the three organizations I researched Childhelp® is more likely to help in this mission.

References

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/abstract/saycrle.htm>

http://www.feedthechildren.org/site/PageServer?pagename=dotorg_homepage

<http://www.savethechildren.org/>

<http://www.childhelp.org/>