

United Way of Van Wert County **Designation Policy**

One of the major strengths of the United Way is the systematic and careful distribution of campaign funds to its affiliated agencies. Local volunteers spend many hours on behalf of the contributors. They meet to analyze human care needs; weigh and set priorities; review programs to best meet the needs; evaluate the administrative, service and financial capabilities of the agencies. In this way, the volunteers assure the contributors and their dollars are used in the most efficient and effective manner possible to promote the health and wellbeing of the community.

Most contributors do not designate their pledges and are confident that their contributions will be allocated appropriately through the citizen's review process. However, some contributors indicate a preference in designating to the United Way. Therefore, the following policies and procedures are in place with regard to donor designation of contributions.

The United Way of Van Wert County will allow designations to:

1. Member Agencies – The amount that is designated to member agencies will be paid to the agency on top of the allocation amount approved by the board of trustees. The member agency must apply for allocation and be approved to receive their designations.
2. Other United Ways – The contributor's gift will be forwarded to other United Way agencies. The United Way of Van Wert County will deduct a portion of the designated gift to cover fundraising and administrative expenses. This amount is 18%. The Van Wert United Way has an agreement with the Greater United Way of Lima to only charge 9.4% administrative expenses.
3. The only exception to the designation rule is the community ballparks. The ballparks have a shorter application. The application only allows them to apply for \$600. They will receive the amount applied for or the designation total for their ballpark. Example: Middle Point ballpark applies for \$600 and we have \$1166 designated to Middle Point. They will receive the greater \$1166.

The names, amounts and addresses (if provided) of persons designating to a specific agency or United Way will be provided to the respective group so that a thank you may be sent to the donor.

No designations will be accepted for non-United Way agencies. Donors designating to a non-member agency will receive correspondence from the United Way office asking them to designate to a member agency and be given 10 days to respond. If they do not respond, the funds will be allocated through the citizen's review process. If the donor contacts the United Way and does not wish to designate to a member agency, the pledge will be canceled.

Designations are for individual contributors. Corporate contributions cannot be designated. At no time, no minimum amount has been established. Donors may designate any amount.