PUBLIC EDUCATION INITIATIVES FOR WISE CHARITABLE GIVING

SOUTH CAROLINA SECRETARY OF STATE
MARK HAMMOND
The Solicitation of Charitable Funds Act was enacted in 1994 in order to regulate the manner, conditions, and procedures in which organizations solicit charitable funds in the state of South Carolina.
South Carolina Solicitation of Charitable Funds Act

In South Carolina, the Secretary of State is the administrator of the Solicitation of Charitable Funds Act.
Filing Requirements for Charities

- Registration Statement for a Charitable Organization
  - Legal Name and DBAs
  - Physical Location
  - Charitable Purpose
  - Officers/Board Members
  - Contact Person
Filing Requirements for Charities

- **Annual Financial Report**
  - Must include the following information:
    - Total revenue
    - Total expenses
    - Program expenses
    - Net assets
    - Fundraising costs

- Can be filed using IRS Form 990, 990-EZ or 990-PF or annual financial report form provided by the Secretary of State
The Secretary of State’s Office publishes registration information and annual financial reports on its website so that donors may research charities before making a contribution.
In 2023, Secretary Hammond launched the Give Smart SC mobile app to make it easier for donors to access registration and financial report data.
Donors can also file a confidential complaint through the Give Smart SC App or the Secretary of State’s website if they have concerns about a charitable organization, professional fundraiser, or nonprofit raffle.
Angel Announcement

- Every year, Secretary Hammond recognizes 10 “Angel” charities in order to raise awareness about wise charitable giving.

- Secretary Hammond recognizes a variety of organizations that have a significant impact on South Carolina.

- Nominations from the public are also requested.
In order to be recognized as an Angel, a charity must meet the following criteria:

- The charity must devote 80% or more of its expenses to program services.
- The charity must have been in existence for three or more years.
- The charity must make good use of volunteer services and not rely heavily on grants.
- The charity must be in compliance with the Solicitation of Charitable Funds Act.
Other Public Education Initiatives

- Wise Giving Presentations/Trainings
- Annual Wise Giving & Professional Solicitor Report
- Multistate Actions
- End-of-Year Public Service Announcement
GIVE SMART PSA

Mark Hammond
Secretary of State
The best weapon against charity fraud is the educated donor!
Give From The Heart, But Please Give Smart!

South Carolina
Secretary of State
Mark Hammond
Melissa W. Dunlap
Deputy Secretary of State & Chief Legal Counsel
South Carolina Secretary of State’s Office
1205 Pendleton Street, Suite 525
Columbia, South Carolina 29201
Phone: (803) 734-2157
Email: mdunlap@sos.sc.gov
Website: https://sos.sc.gov/