

September 26, 2018

To Whom it May Concern:

Unfortunately, United Way's relationship (or lack thereof) with Planned Parenthood has once again come under public scrutiny and we feel compelled to proactively clarify our position on this issue as an independent, local, pro-family organization.

What many people do not realize is that each local United Way, including United Way of Central Kentucky, is an independent 501(c)3 organization that could stand on its own as fully functional nonprofit without the United Way Worldwide membership affiliation. However, being part of the global United Way network not only adds more value to our region than if we tried to operate as a community charity or foundation, but also holds us to an additional set of incredibly rigorous standards of good governance, transparency, and accountability. We share this because the operations of other local United Ways do not impact our funding decisions which are made by our Community Investment Team (CIT) volunteers and Board of Directors. In fact, each United Way works with local volunteers and residents to determine needs and make investment decisions that will impact the communities they serve.

Our local CIT has never fielded a request to consider providing financial support to Planned Parenthood, which also does not have a location in our service area. The only way United Way of Central Kentucky would ever pass along funding to other independent local United Ways who could make these decisions, would be through designations requested by our donors themselves. Nonetheless, we have never received a written designation to Planned Parenthood, nor have we directed funds to a United Way outside of our organization who supports Planned Parenthood. Furthermore, we're happy to say that no other local United Way in the state of Kentucky is doing so.

To illustrate how funds are protected from going to programs that do not drive our local Community Impact goals, here is how the financial relationship between local United Ways and our training and support organization, United Way Worldwide, operates. With just \$0.01 of every dollar raised in our community going to pay membership dues to United Way Worldwide, we in turn receive the tools and resources to facilitate national programs like United Way Born Learning Academies, volunteer initiatives, brand licensing, training, technical support, and access to numerous fundraising relationships that have been negotiated globally – benefiting us at the local level. Walmart and UPS are just two examples of these partnerships which have agreements in place with United Way Worldwide that allow us to fundraise more effectively. These two relationships alone in 2017 produced over \$63,000 in investments we were able to allocate to local programs serving our community in 2018. An official statement from United Way Worldwide verifying that none of our membership dues go into any kind of funding for Planned Parenthood can be found at <https://www.unitedway.org/plannedparenthood>.

Unfortunately, often the biggest misconceptions about our work occur when assumptions are not made with all the facts, and therefore we openly welcome the opportunity to address questions and concerns. If asked, please share this information or reach out to us directly at (270) 737-6608. Learn more at <https://www.unitedwayck.org/financials>.

Respectfully,

The United Way of Central Kentucky Staff  
& Board of Directors

United Way of  
Central Kentucky

