# Strategic Solicitations: Matching Donor Interests With Your Needs



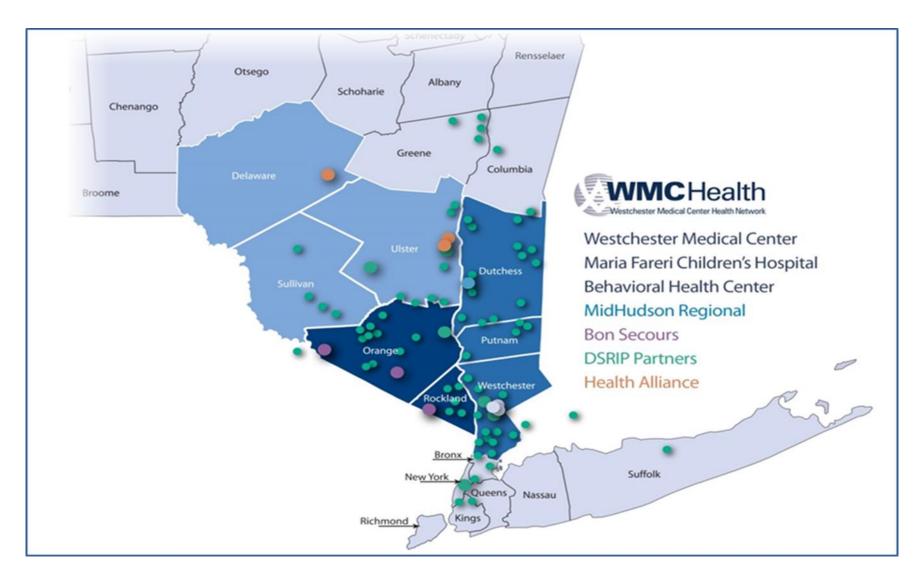
Kevin Carraccio Senior Vice President of Development Westchester Medical Center Health Network January 10, 2018



Advancing Care. Here.

#### **Westchester Medical Center Health Network:**

6 Foundations; 10 hospitals; Largely events-focused fundraising background/history



# And the winners are:

Environmental and Animal 7.2%

Arts, Culture and Humanities 6.4%

Health Organizations 5.7%

Human Services 4%

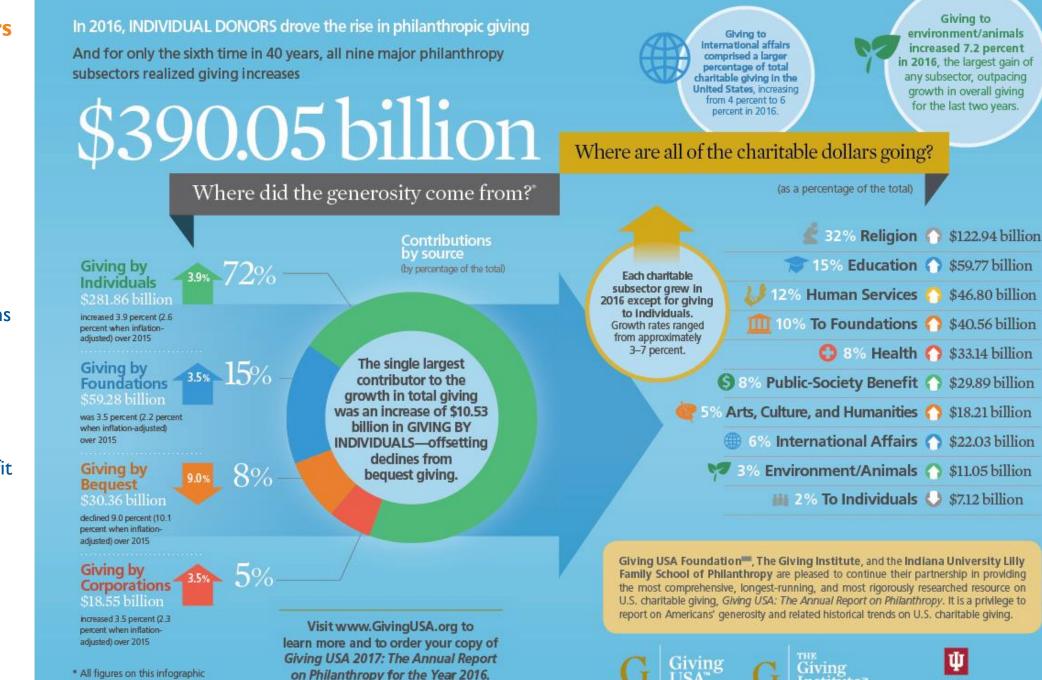
Public-society Benefit 3.7%

Education 3.6%

Religion 3%

are reported in current dollars

unless otherwise noted.



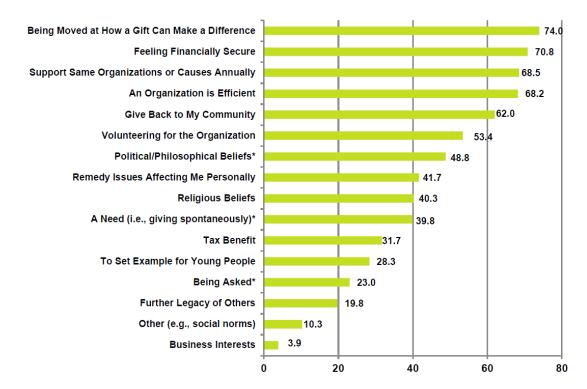
Institute

IUPU

### What Motivates Donors to Give? What Benefits Do They Derive From Giving?

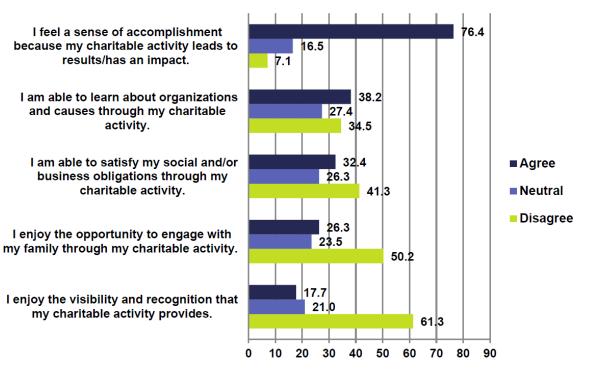
FIGURE 40: HIGH NET WORTH DONORS REPORTING GIVING BASED ON MOTIVATION TYPE IN 2011^ (%)

"On a scale of 1 to 5, do you usually give because of [or to] ...?"



#### FIGURE 43: HIGH NET WORTH DONORS REPORTING BENEFITS DERIVED FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITY<sup>^</sup> (%)

"Which of the following statements do you agree or disagree with related to your charitable activity?"

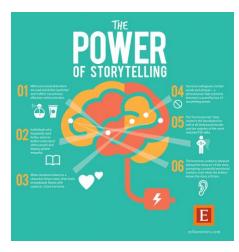


Source: 2012 Bank of America Study of High Net Worth Philanthropy

### DSRIP: Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment Program in NY



- Redesign of the Medicaid delivery system
- DSRIP's overall goal is to reduce avoidable hospital use by 25% over 5 years and overuse of emergency services.
- Health systems are NOT only in the business of delivering care anymore
- Good health is based on access to good clinical care, nutrition, transportation, language and cultural barriers, finances, housing, child care and education.
- Hospitals and health systems now see a role for themselves as "anchor institutions" in improving social determinants of health, including: housing, access to fresh foods, workforce development and economic development, in an effort to improve community health and wellness outcomes in the communities we serve.



# Know Yourself and Tell Your Story

- Make sure people know you are a charity and that you rely on community support.
- Tell your story from multiple points of view: employee, user of services, community that benefits, board members and volunteers. Arm others with a script.
- Tell your story on-site if at all possible.
- Listen attentively for cues about how your audience (prospect) relates to your story.
- What makes your story unique? What makes how your organization does what it does unique?
- Describe how others have left a legacy.
- Describe what others have shared that they valued that led to their decision to make a gift.
- Be proud but humble. Acknowledge the need to support other charities and the good work they do.
- Don't be afraid to express strength and capacity but need. Talk about funding cuts (real or potential) to critical services and needs that are created.
- Don't forget about after-event follow-up and solicitations.

### What Makes a "Good Gift?"

Depends who you ask...Donor's perspective vs. institution's.

- Donor's perspective:
  - Passionate about cause not consistent with mission, but they like you
  - Disproportionate recognition
  - The "real cost" of doing something vs. proposed gift
- Institution's Perspective:
  - Can we carry out goal of the gift?
  - Is the gift creating something sustainable? Does that matter?
  - What burdens does the gift place on the institution?
  - Are we asking for the right gift (dollar amount, right time to be adding a program?)

#### Good Gift Checklist



### **Donor-Centered Fundraising**

- Philanthropy is comprised of a series of choices a donor gets to make as we lead them down a path of exploring opportunities.
- Truly donor-centered fundraising means allowing the donor to make choices that meet their needs.
- Social psychology research suggests that after someone makes a first-time gift they may be wondering what will come next. That "next step" needs to create a warm feeling leaving them yearning for more – a simple thank you letter won't do.
- Donors' needs generally relate to:
  - The way they are able or are required to give (cash, appreciated securities, donor advised funds/family foundations, retirement accounts, tangible property);
  - Recognition;
  - Family Legacy;
  - Demonstrating community support;
  - The opportunity to "repay" something done for them.
- Don't assume or make choices for the donor large or small.

### Be Creative, (appropriately)Persistent and Consistent

- Don't cultivate and/or steward everyone in the same way.
- Engage those around the prospect / donor (Assistants, children, grandchildren, financial advisors).
- Use touches for which you do not expect a response create a substantive cultivation/stewardship plan with personal, substantive messaging so they know you are thinking of them.
- Do something out of the box if the timing and situation is appropriate
  - Hand-written solicitations use the volunteers or board members;
  - Video thank you messages featuring clients/recipients of services;
  - Children's art if you have access to families receiving the benefit of donations.
- ♦ Keep it up! Until the restraining order is issued ☺☺☺☺





## What To Do When You Can't See or Touch It?

- Make people feel like they belong to something societies, clubs, guilds.
- Build a corps of "early adopters" of a concept.
- Ask your institution's closest friends and leaders to make exemplary gifts.
- Introduce your constituency to the theories of endowments and perpetual campaigns.
- Create annual mini-campaigns with a defined (achievable) goal either number of donors or dollars or both.
- Consider time-limited legacy campaign to bridge the gap until priorities are defined.

### Creative Asks

- Split gift payments to create spendable gifts and an endowed fund.
- Larger gifts can come from a combination of outright cash and planned gifts.
- Gifts of property should not be overlooked, if your organization can deal with the management of the gift.
- Use gift annuities or other "starter" gifts as a "test" in ways to secure larger gifts later.
- Consider group-funding concepts. Either within families, social groups, alumni groups/associations or community organizations.
- Create crowd funding campaigns.
- Create asks and campaigns around milestones
  - Number of people served
  - Retirement of key staff/volunteers
  - Anniversaries plan ahead!

### You've made the ask. Now what?

- Did you summarize your next steps?
- Did you offer a choice for following up and reiterate it?
- Who's in charge of that follow up?
- Do you know your donor's advisor(s)?
- What creative touches are happening between now and the gift decision?
- Who can endorse the project? A board member?
- What leaders should the donor meet to influence the decision?
- How can you create urgency?
- What tools do you need to get the job done?





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