



ALERT FROM THE NEW YORK ATTORNEY GENERAL'S CHARITIES BUREAU CONCERNING NYCharities.org

The Attorney General's Charities Bureau has received complaints about **NYCharities.org**, an Internet fundraising platform that has served as an "online contributions portal" for individual New York charities. When appropriately administered, an online contributions portal can be a cost-effective technique for managing fundraising and related functions.

Some charities that engaged the NYCharities.org to use the platform have advised the Attorney General's Charities Bureau that, for the past few months, they have not received funds contributed to them via the platform.

Some charities have also reported that NYCharities.org has not responded to their complaints.

The Charities Bureau is conducting an investigation into the operations of NYCharities.org. The Charities Bureau has reached no conclusions about the operations of NYCharities.org. We are taking the unusual step of advising the charitable sector and charitable advisors of our investigation because we believe that charitable fiduciaries should consider appropriate steps to assure the protection of charitable donations, including:

- If NYCharities.org's website is active, considering using their NYCharities.org account to post a message on the page connected to their organization to alert potential donors that contributions should be made directly to the charity, and, if possible, cancel any recurring contributions that have been set up on NYCharities.org's website,
- Considering posting on their websites a notice that contributions should be made directly to the charity and not via NYCharities.org,
- Considering contacting regular contributors to advise them that contributions should be made directly to the charity and not via NYCharities.org and that recurring contributions should be cancelled,
- Advising the Charities Bureau, by email to charities.complaints@ag.ny.gov, of your experience, whether positive or negative with NYCharities.org,
- Submitting a complaint the Charities Bureau – charities.complaints@ag.ny.gov - including records of the funds they believe they are owed, records of contacts with and efforts to contact NYCharities.org concerning the funds, and any agreement or contract they have or had with NYCharities.org. A complaint form is posted on the Charities Bureau's website – www.charitiesnys.com.

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