

Gift Acceptance Policy

2019

As a humanitarian organization, specializing in relief and development programs that benefit vulnerable communities worldwide, **Relief International (RI)** is duty bound to act with responsibility and transparency when soliciting and accepting gifts. We believe we should not accept gifts from individuals or corporation whose activities are in conflict with our humanitarian goals and values, as set out in our mission. This policy governs the acceptance of gifts by RI and provides guidance to prospective donors and their advisors when making gifts to RI.

RI's MISSION

Relief International is solely dedicated to reducing human suffering and is non-political and non-sectarian in its mission, which is to:

Partner with people in vulnerable communities to achieve relief from poverty by supporting their response to crises, building their resilience to disasters and emergencies, and promoting dignity and the long-term well-being of people in the communities that we serve.

SOLICITING GIFTS

Members of the governing bodies of the Relief International alliance organizations, volunteers and staff shall solicit gifts from individuals, corporations, foundations, and other private funding sources to secure the sustainability, future growth, and mission of RI.

GIFT ACCEPTANCE

Gift Acceptance decisions for gifts under the value of \$500,000 will be made by RI's CEO and Senior Director, Development & Communications. For gifts of over \$500,000, they will make these decisions in consultation with RI's Advancement Committee & Finance Committee. Together, they are responsible for reviewing all gifts and proposed gifts made to RI, properly screening and accepting those gifts, and making decisions concerning acceptance.

Gifts will be considered according to their intended use, restrictions, liabilities and financial impact on RI now and in the future. Only gifts, bequests, devises, endowments, trusts, and similar funds that are designated for use by RI consistent with its stated goals and mission will be considered for acceptance.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

RI Board members, volunteers, and employees will scrupulously avoid the appearance of or actual conflict of interest between prospective donors or donors and RI Board members, volunteers and employees.

DUE DILIGENCE

RI will refuse a donation where there is reason to believe the money results from illegal activities or where the activities of the donor are contrary to the mission, values and/or objectives of the RI or where a gift could cause reputational damage.

RI will be transparent about gifts accepted in terms of their sources and purposes. Gifts will not be accepted where the source of the funds in question is unknown.

RESTRICTED GIFTS

RI will accept unrestricted gifts, and gifts for specific programs and purposes, provided that such gifts are not inconsistent with its stated mission, purposes, and priorities. RI will not accept gifts that are excessively restrictive in purpose.

A portion of unrestricted gifts may be directed toward funding the Operating Reserve Fund. For all major restricted gifts, RI shall ask donors of specifically restricted gifts to provide in writing that if the purpose of the gift in the future no longer fits the purpose, strategic objectives, or the mission of RI, RI will be permitted to use the resources in a manner consistent with the objectives of RI and the mission of the RI and in a manner most closely matching the original donor intent.

If the intended goal of a restricted gift no longer exists, and if no authority was given by the donor to use the gift for an unrestricted purpose, RI shall follow all applicable statutes to release the restrictions in the most transparent fashion possible.

TYPES OF GIFTS

RI shall accept payment of gifts by cash, credit card, check or bequests regardless of amount, assuming the gift meets all prior criteria. RI can accept and will immediately sell, readily marketable securities, such as those traded on a public stock exchange. RI generally does not accept real assets such as tangible personal property or real estate, except in rare circumstances when the Advancement Committee & Finance Committee votes to make an exception. Gifts of closely held corporate stock are not encouraged.

DONOR PRIVACY

RI is committed to protecting the privacy of its donors. Any information supplied to RI by donors will be used solely to fulfill their donation and shall not be shared for any reason unless the donor grants permission. All requests to remain anonymous shall be respected so far as is legally and practically possible. Donors may request to be permanently removed from the mailing list by contacting RI via email, phone or postal mail.

Relief International is an alliance of Relief International USA, Relief International UK, MRCA/ Relief International – France, and Relief International – Europe. Relief International, Inc. is a U.S. nonprofit corporation recognized by the US Internal Revenue Service as a Section 501(c)(3) exempt organization constituting a public charity, contributions to which are tax deductible as provided by US tax law. Relief International U.K. is a U.K. registered Charity.

For further information on making a gift to RI, please contact our Philanthropy Team by email philanthropy@ri.org, or telephone +1 (202) 639-8660.

