

## GUIDELINES FOR PUMPKIN PATCH CHARITIES

### Nominations

An application (from the church office or website) must be completed to make a nomination. (2014)

Only one charity is to be nominated per application. (2017)

Charities must be nominated by a member of Trinity who participates in and supports the charity. (2003)

Nominations are advertised in June and received by the Sunday before the July meeting. (2015)

Team members receive a copy of every nomination and review them in July for details related to the criteria.

That gives them a month to do the research to get the info they need to make an informed decision.

Charities cannot nominate themselves to be a recipient of the funds.

While most nominations are local, if there are others nominated beyond our community, the team will select at least one local, one national, and one global charity/mission.

### Criteria

**Finance** – What is the financial need? What are the limitations of the charity's other funding resources? Do they have access to funding resources that other charities do not? What charities are being supported by Trinity in other ways through the budget, last Sunday offerings, other church groups? Which are not?

**Involvement** – How are Trinity members involved in the charity? What is the level of personal participation (not just financial support but also giving of time and talents)? Is this a Trinity-sponsored ministry (church-wide as opposed to the participation of a few members)?

**Need** – Who has the greatest need at this time? Is this a long-time ministry? Is it a new ministry in great need that needs funds immediately?

**Clientele** – Which charities have the greatest impact in their ministry? Is the impact short-term or long-term, or band-aiding situations?

**Outreach** – Does the charity's ministry impact go beyond the persons it helps, making an impact on families, others, and the community?

**Effectiveness** – Is the need for the charity growing or just maintaining its ministry? Is this due to a decrease in the need for it or lack of funds?

**Use of Funds** – Do the funds a charity receives go directly or almost totally directly to the ministry of its clients (rather than a central headquarters)?

### Distribution

The number of charities selected varies from year to year and is determined by the team. There have been as many as sixteen and as few as six nominations from which to make the selections. Apportionments as a part of Trinity's commitment to the United Methodist Church beyond our community have not been considered appropriate as a nomination.

Percentages or dollar amounts of the fundraising income are assigned to the charities. Percentages and amounts vary from year to year and do not have to be evenly distributed but may be assigned based on need, first-time or previous recipient, or other criteria.

The financial secretary will be given a list of the amounts or percentages assigned to the charities and will prepare checks once all funds have been counted and expenses paid.