

INTERNATIONAL CHARITY FRAUD AWARENESS WEEK 2019



BACKGROUND:

The Federal Trade Commission has put together a social media toolkit for **International Charity Fraud Awareness Week 2019**, which will take place **Oct. 21 – 25, 2019**. We highly recommend partners use the educational materials below.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED/INSTRUCTIONS:

Join us in raising awareness of common charity fraud risks and counter-fraud best practice.

Take part in our social media campaign using both [#CharityFraudOut](#) and [#CharityFraudOut2019](#) – use our suggested tweets and posts or create your own. There are associated campaign URLs to track how well the social media campaign does. The FTC uses Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, and YouTube but that does not mean that partners cannot use the educational materials below on different platforms, such as Instagram. Feel free to personalize posts with the name of your state, organization or official. Also, if you're able, please track the hashtags both [#CharityFraudOut](#) and [#CharityFraudOut2019](#) during the week and Retweet/Repost/Share partners' posts.

SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS:

PLEASE NOTE: Social media content is strictly embargoed until Monday, Oct. 21, 2019.

TIMING:

We recognize everyone is busy and on different time zones but we think the campaign and hashtags will be most effective if conducted in Twitter-storm format. That is – posts timed, posted, and/or scheduled together. **The FTC plans to start posting using both hashtags at 9am ET and plans to do at least five posts a day all the way through 5pm ET.**

HASHTAGS:

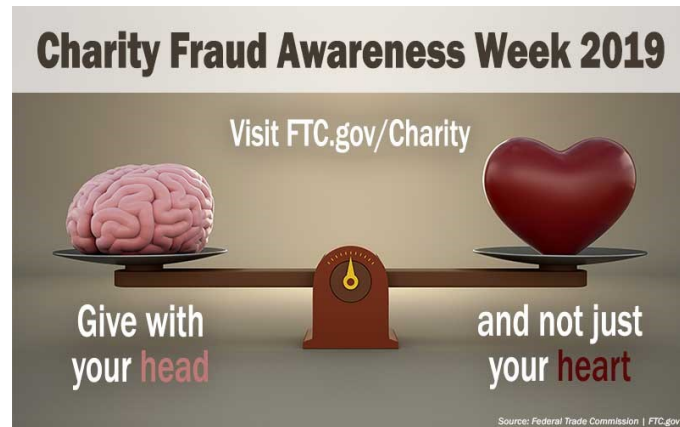
The order of posts for each day does not matter but they must fall within the appropriate theme of the day and must use both [#CharityFraudOut](#) and [#CharityFraudOut2019](#) as hashtags. Other popular hashtags to use in addition to campaign hashtags (suggested if you have space):

#Charity #CharityFraud

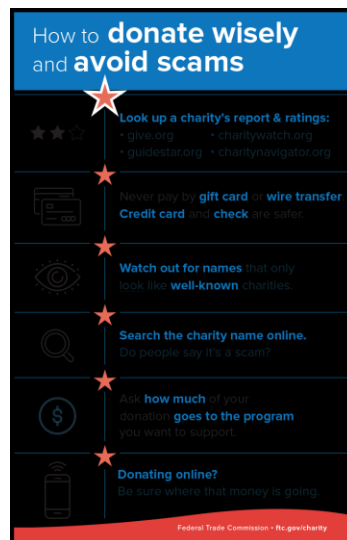
DAY 1: ALL TOGETHER NOW: CURRENT FRAUD RISKS

TWEETS:

1. It's Charity Fraud Awareness Week 2019! Give with your head and not just your heart. Watch for scammers taking advantage of your generosity. Visit <https://go.usa.gov/xVtbk> for more info! #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use head/heart image below]

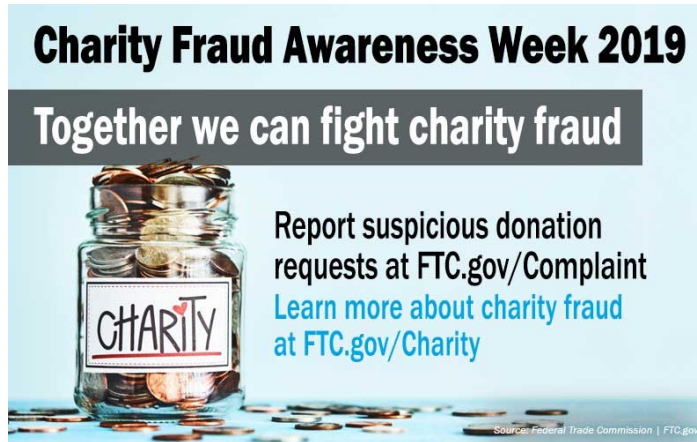


2. When you decide to support a cause, your donation should count – not go to scammers. Find tips on how to research a charity and plan your giving at <https://go.usa.gov/xVtbk> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use How to donate wisely and avoid scams image below]



3. Join forces with the FTC to fight charity fraud. Educate yourself on how to stop scammers and report bogus donation requests to the FTC. Learn more about charity fraud at <https://go.usa.gov/xVtbk>. #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use How to donate wisely and avoid scams image above]

4. Together we can fight charity fraud. Report suspicious donation requests at [FTC.gov/complaint](https://go.usa.gov/xVtbk). Learn more about charity fraud at <https://go.usa.gov/xVtbk>. #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use together we can fight fraud... image below]



5. Report suspicious charity solicitations. Your reports matter. Tell the FTC at [FTC.gov/Complaint](https://go.usa.gov/xVtbk) #CharityFraudOut2019 [use Complaints matter, report... image below]



6. DYK that when you donate online, your money may first go to an org that accepts the donation and gives you a tax receipt? That intermediary organization might also keep a service fee. Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtbM> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut **[use donating online image below]**



7. If giving online, be sure you know how your money gets to the charity you're supporting, how much of it gets there, and when. Here's some guidance on how to do that: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtbM> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut **[use donating online image above]**
8. Donating online? Do you know where your money goes? Tips: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtbM> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut **[use donating online image above]**
9. Donating online? How long will it be before the charity gets your money? Know before you give. Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtbM> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut **[use donating online image above]**

FACEBOOK/LINKEDIN POSTS:

1. On crowdfunding sites and social media, many requests to donate to individuals and charities are legit, but some are scams. For example, scammers might use real pictures and stories about people in need to ask for donations, but the money goes into the scammers' pockets. Crowdfunding sites may have little control over how donations are spent. Also, if tax deductions are important to you, remember that donations to individuals are not tax-deductible. Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtj4> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut **[use crowdfunding image below]**



2. Considering donating through a website or social media platform that promises to send your contribution to your chosen charity? That's a giving portal. Know more before you give. Here's what to look for: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtbs> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use donating online image below]



3. Your friend posts on social media about a charity they'd like you to donate to. But that doesn't mean the charity is legitimate. Do your own research. Make sure any links for donations are legitimate. Call or contact your friend offline and ask about their post and the charity. Visit <https://go.usa.gov/xVtj4> for more info. #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use crowdfunding image below]



5. If someone wants donations in cash, by gift card, or by wiring money, DON'T DO IT! That's how scammers ask you to pay. To be safer, pay by credit card or check. Learn more at <https://go.usa.gov/xVtb2> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use gift card image below]



DAY 2: FUNDRAISING

TWEETS:

1. Research before you give. Watch this PSA on avoiding sham charities, announced during the #DonateWithHonor campaign: <https://youtu.be/ZWVG9O-rB2gc> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut
2. Be careful: Scammers may make the caller ID look like their fundraising calls come from your local area code, a Washington, D.C. area code, or from an organization you know. More: [FTC.gov/Calls](https://www.ftc.gov/calls) #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use caller ID spoofing image below]



3. Choose your cause w/ your heart; choose your organization w/ your head. Make sure your donation counts: <https://youtu.be/k0cfWTC5IHA> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut
4. Don't donate by gift card, or wire transfer – that's how scammers often ask you to pay. It's safer to pay by credit card or check. Ask questions before you give to avoid charity fraud. Watch to learn more: <https://youtu.be/k0cfWTC5IHA> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut
5. Make your donation count. Ask questions like "How much of my donation will be used for the specific programs I want to support?" For more tips, go to [FTC.gov/Charity](https://www.ftc.gov/charity). Watch: <https://youtu.be/k0cfWTC5IHA> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut
6. Sleep on it. A legitimate charity will welcome your donation any time. For more tips go to [FTC.gov/Charity](https://www.ftc.gov/charity). Make your donations count: <https://youtu.be/k0cfWTC5IHA> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut
7. Ask how much of your donation goes to the program you want to support. For more tips, go to [FTC.gov/Charity](https://www.ftc.gov/charity). Make your donations count: <https://youtu.be/k0cfWTC5IHA> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut

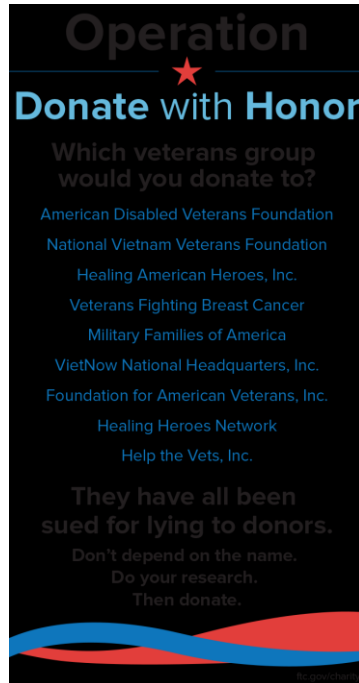
8. Watch for telemarketers who thank you for a donation you never made. They're trying to trick you into paying them. For more tips, go to [FTC.gov/Charity](https://www.ftc.gov/charity) Make your donations count: <https://youtu.be/k0cfWTC5IHA> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut
9. Not sure if a charity is legit? Search online for the charity's name, plus words like "complaint," "review," "rating," and "scam." Visit <https://go.usa.gov/xVtbk> for more info. #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use online search image below]



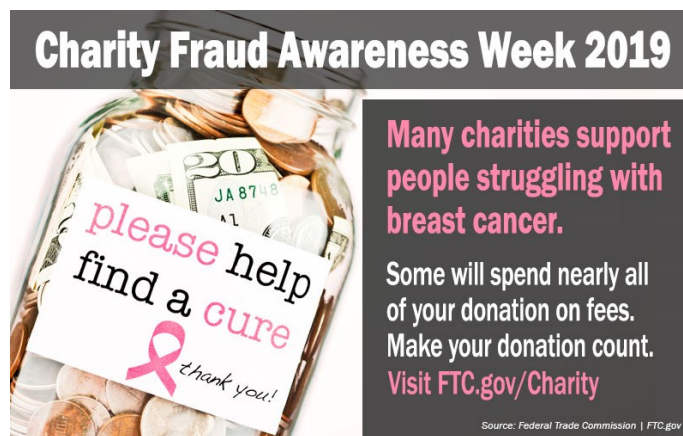
10. Want to help w/ disaster relief? Just b/c there are fraudsters who prey on donors, that doesn't mean you should stop giving. Many great charities need your money to help disaster victims. Keep giving, but always do your research first. Visit <https://go.usa.gov/xVtbk> for more info. #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use online hurricane relief image below]



11. Want to help veterans? Many legit charities support military members and their families, but some will spend nearly all of your donation on fees. Other organizations are outright scams. Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtjc> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut #Milfams [use Donate w/ Honor image below]

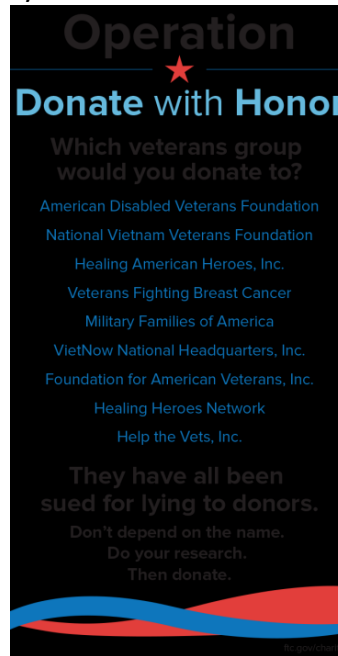


12. Want to help people with breast cancer? Many legit charities support people struggling w/ breast cancer, but some will spend nearly all of your donation on fees. Other organizations are outright scams. Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtbk> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use breast cancer donation image below]



FACEBOOK/LINKEDIN POSTS:

1. Scammers use official-sounding names and official-looking websites, show people in military uniform, or use the logo of a military branch. Do research, ask questions, don't pay with cash, wire transfer or gift card. Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtbh>
#CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut #Milfams



2. Do your research: Check out a charity's report at BBB Wise Giving Alliance (@wisegiving), Charity Navigator (@CharityNav), CharityWatch, and @GuideStarUSA. Search online for the charity's name, plus words like "complaint," "review," "rating," and "scam." For more tips go to <https://go.usa.gov/xVtb2> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use online search image below]



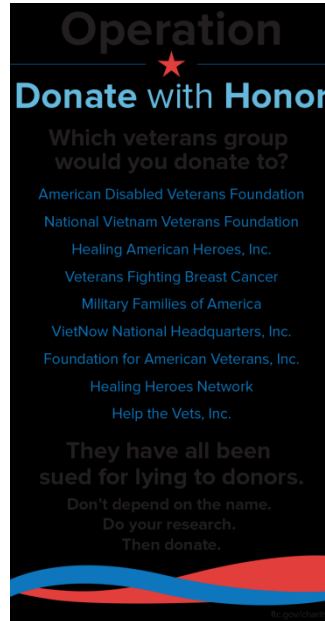
3. Want to help w/ disaster relief? Just b/c there are fraudsters who prey on donors, that doesn't mean you should stop giving. Many great charities need your money to help disaster victims. Keep giving, but always do your research first. Visit <https://go.usa.gov/xVtb2> for more info. #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use hurricane relief image below]



4. Not sure if a charity is legit? Search online for the charity's name, plus words like "complaint," "review," "rating," and "scam." You can do the same search with the <https://go.usa.gov/xVtb2> for more info. #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use online search image below]



5. Many legit charities support servicemembers and their families, but some will spend nearly all of your donation on fees. Other organizations are outright scams. Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtbh> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut #Milfams [use **Donate w/ Honor** image below]



6. Want to help people with breast cancer? Many legit charities support people struggling with breast cancer, but some will spend nearly all of your donation on fees. Other organizations are outright scams. Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtb2> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use **breast cancer donation** image below]



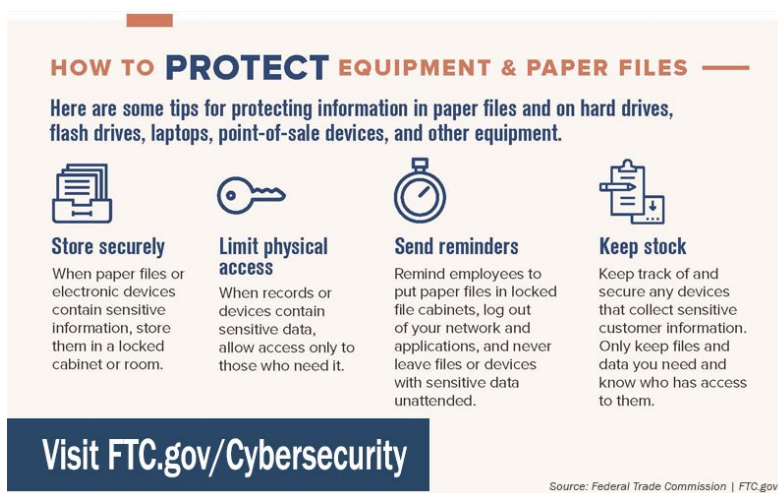
DAY 3: CYBERSECURITY

TWEETS:

1. Do you run a charity org? Take time this week to check your charity's cybersecurity. Are your files and devices protected from cyber attacks? Update your software (apps, browser, op system), encrypt your devices, use multi-factor authentication. Learn how at <https://go.usa.gov/xVtD9> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use cyber basics image below]



2. Cybersecurity starts w/ strong physical security. International Charity Fraud Week is the perfect time to review how you're protecting info in paper files, hard drives, flash drives and other equipment. <https://go.usa.gov/xVtDp> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use physical security image below]



3. Do you know how to protect your charity from tech support scams? Test your knowledge. Take the quiz: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtDf> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use quiz screenshot below]



Tech Support Scams Quiz

You get a phone call, pop-up, or email telling you there's a problem with your computer. What would you do next?

To test your understanding of tech support scams, choose the correct response for each question or statement.

Visit [FTC.gov/TechSupportQuiz](https://ftc.gov/TechSupportQuiz)

Source: Federal Trade Commission | [FTC.gov](https://ftc.gov)

4. Charities: Has a phishing scam hooked your company's good name? FTC has advice on how to respond if your organization is impersonated in a phishing scam: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtjk> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use phishing image below]



5. Take time this week to check your charity's cybersecurity. Are your files and devices protected from cyber attacks? Update your software (apps, browser, op system), encrypt your devices, use multi-factor authentication: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtD9> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use cyber basics image below]



6. Charities: Learn some cybersecurity basics and help protect your organization from cyber attacks. Watch this short video and share it with your employees: <https://youtu.be/kGPCUvZZ6FM>. #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut
7. Charities: Learn some cybersecurity basics and help protect your org from cyber attacks. Watch this short video and share it with your employees: <https://youtu.be/kGPCUvZZ6FM> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut
8. Wondering how to protect your charity from email imposters? Use email authentication. It's not hard! Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtDn> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use biz email imposters image below]

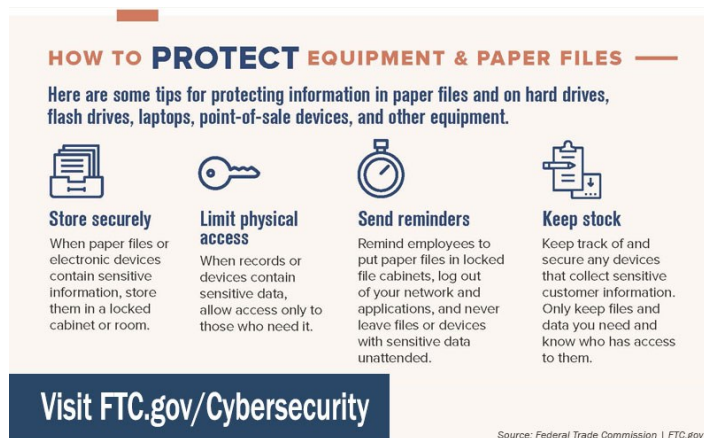


FACEBOOK/LINKEDIN POSTS:

1. Do you run a charity? Take time this week to check your charity's cybersecurity. Are your files and devices protected from cyber attacks? Update your software (apps, browser, op system), encrypt your devices, use multi-factor authentication. Learn how at <https://go.usa.gov/xVtbE> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use protect files and devices image below]



2. Think you don't have the time to learn about cybersecurity? Then you really won't have time to fix the damage to your charity's good name if your files are hacked and data about your donors, clients, or employees is stolen. Invest the time now to protect yourself in the future. Learn how at <https://go.usa.gov/xVtbE> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use protect files and devices image above]
3. Cybersecurity starts with strong physical security. International Charity Fraud Week is the perfect time to review how you're protecting info in paper files, hard drives, flash drives and other equipment. <https://go.usa.gov/xVtDy> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use how to protect equipment and paper files image below]



4. Watch this video to learn about ransomware and how to protect your non-profit organization: <https://youtu.be/cy2ZWwi49E2A> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut
5. Charities: Are you worried about your staff falling for a phishing attack? Share this to help them learn about phishing: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtiZ> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut **[use phishing image below]**



6. Charities: Are you worried about your staff falling for a phishing attack? Have staff take this phishing quiz: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtDv> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut **[use phishing quiz image below]**



Phishing Quiz

You get an email or text that seems to be from one of your company's vendors. It asks you to click on a link to update your business account. Should you click? Probably not. This could be a phishing attempt.

7. Have you just learned that your charity experienced a data breach? Find out what steps to take and who to contact if personal info was exposed: <https://youtu.be/ijrmMecPAKE> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut
8. Did you get a notice that says your personal info was exposed in a data breach? Visit [IdentityTheft.gov/databreach](https://www.identitytheft.gov/databreach) to learn what you can do to protect your identity: <https://youtu.be/B2TlfMaoMIM> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut

DAY 4: INTERNAL FRAUD

TWEETS:

1. As a leader in your community, you may be asked to support local or nat'l charities. Supporting a charity can be a great thing to do, but before you give your time, money, or your business's name, make sure the request isn't a scam. Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtbk> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use leader in community image below]



2. Businesses: Make it a policy to get anyone asking for fundraising help to give you basic information about the charity and the fundraiser. Be suspicious if they can't give you this information. You can use this Charity Request Form: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtZf> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use charity request form image below]

Charity Request Form
Application for Charities to Raise Funds or Solicit Donations on the Premises

You must get approval to raise funds or seek donations in my business. Complete this form to request approval. Please attach brochures or other materials about your organization to help us make a decision. After considering your request, we will contact you.

Date of application _____

About the Organization

Name of organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone number _____

Email _____

Website _____

Federal EIN _____

Is this a 501(c)(3) organization? ☐ Yes ☐ No

How long has the organization been in operation? _____

Is the organization in compliance with all filing requirements of the Internal Revenue Service and the state regulator? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Visit [FTC.gov/CharityRequestForm](https://go.usa.gov/xVtZf)

Source: Federal Trade Commission | FTC.gov

3. Crowdfunding has become very popular. It's an easy way to raise funds online. If your charity is looking to raise funds this way, remember that the rules of fundraising apply to crowdfunding: tell the truth about what the money is for and how it'll be used. Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtiD> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use crowdfunding image below]



FACEBOOK/LINKEDIN POSTS:

1. As a leader in your community, you may be asked to support local or nat'l charities. Supporting a charity can be a great thing to do, but before you give your time, money, or your business's name, make sure the request isn't a scam. Don't risk your business's good name by supporting a fraudulent charity. Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtb2> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use leader in community image below]



2. Make it a policy to get anyone asking for fundraising help to give you basic information about the charity and the fundraiser. Be suspicious if they can't give you this information. You can use this Charity Request Form: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtjn> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use charity request form image below]



The image shows a 'Charity Request Form' titled 'Application for Charities to Raise Funds or Solicit Donations on the Premises'. It includes instructions for businesses to complete the form for approval. The form has fields for 'Date of application', 'About the Organization' (Name, Address, City, State, ZIP, Phone number, Email, Website, Federal EIN), and checkboxes for 'Is this a 501(c)(3) organization?' and 'How long has the organization been in operation?'. It also includes a statement about compliance with IRS and state regulations.

Visit [FTC.gov/CharityRequestForm](https://go.usa.gov/xVtjn)

Source: Federal Trade Commission | [FTC.gov](https://go.usa.gov/xVtjn)

3. When your business supports a charity, you are lending your good name to that organization. Don't risk your reputation; make sure the charity is legitimate and that it supports the causes you care about. Get information from the charity and do some research. Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtb2> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use leader in community image below]



DAY 5: KEEPING DATA SAFE

TWEETS:

1. Charities: Scale down – If you don't have a legit business need for sensitive personally identifying information, don't keep it. In fact, don't even collect it. If you have a legitimate business need for the information, keep it only as long as it's necessary. Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtDq> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use shredding image below]



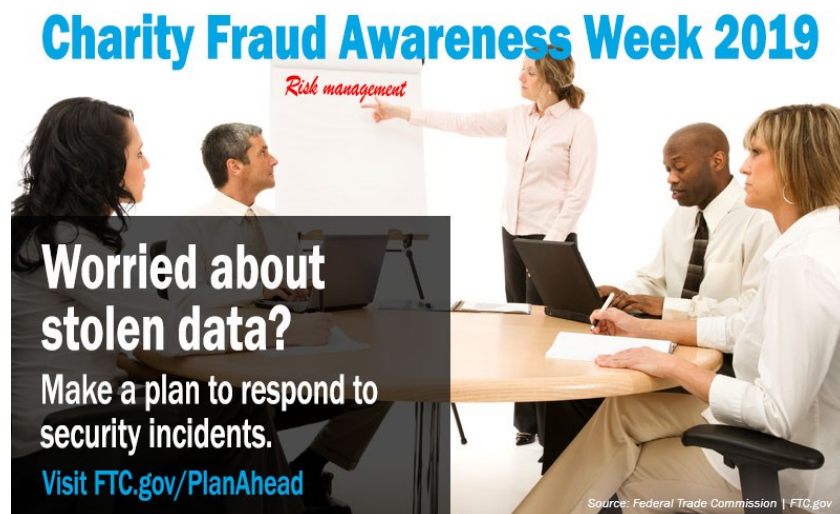
2. Many data compromises happen the old-fashioned way—through lost or stolen paper documents. Often, the best defense is a locked door or an alert employee. Tips on physical security: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtDp> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use Lock It image below]



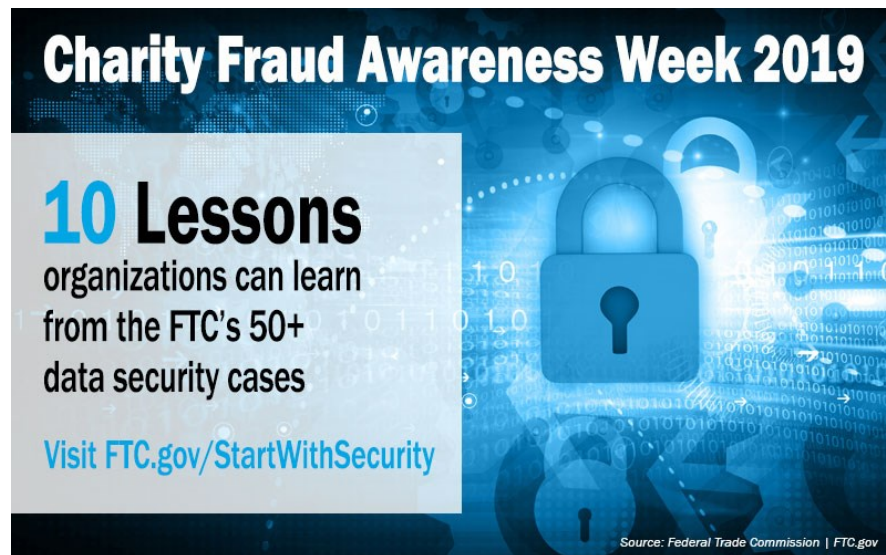
1. What looks like a sack of trash to you can be a gold mine for an ID thief. Leaving credit card receipts, papers or CDs w/ personal info in a dumpster facilitates fraud and exposes consumers to the risk of ID theft. Safely dispose of personal info. Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtjS> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use shredding image below]



2. Worried about stolen data? Here's how you can reduce the impact on your organization, your employees, and your customers: Make a plan to respond to security incidents. Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtjS> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use worried about stolen data image below]



3. Check out 10 practical lessons organizations can learn from the FTC's 50+ data security cases: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtD2> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use 10 FTC security lessons image below]



4. Charities: Do you use vendors? Put controls on databases with sensitive information. Limit access to a need-to-know basis, and only for the amount of time a vendor needs to do a job. Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtDA> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use how to protect your business image below]

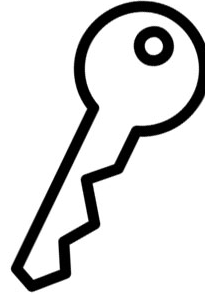


FACEBOOK/LINKEDIN POSTS:

1. Protect your charity's data. Most organizations keep sensitive personal information in their files that identifies clients, donors, or employees. If sensitive data falls into the wrong hands, it can lead to fraud or identity theft. Protect that information. A sound data security plan is built on 5 key principles. Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtZr> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use 5 key principles image below]

A sound data security plan is built on 5 key principles:

1. **TAKE STOCK.**
Know what personal information you have in your files and on your computers.
2. **SCALE DOWN.**
Keep only what you need for your business.
3. **LOCK IT.**
Protect the information that you keep.
4. **PITCH IT.**
Properly dispose of what you no longer need.
5. **PLAN AHEAD.**
Create a plan to respond to security incidents.



Visit FTC.gov/ProtectingDataTips

Source: Federal Trade Commission | FTC.gov

2. Charities: Know what personal info you have in your files and on your computers. Inventory all computers, laptops, mobile devices, flash drives, disks, home computers, digital copiers, and other equipment to find out where your organization stores sensitive data. Also, inventory the information you have by type and location. Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtDa> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use personal info image below]



3. Charities: Doing a data inventory? Your file cabinets and computer systems are a start, but remember: your organization gets personal information in a number of ways—through websites, from contractors, from call centers, and the like. What about information saved on laptops, employees' home computers, flash drives, digital copiers, and mobile devices? No inventory is complete until you check everywhere sensitive data might be stored. Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtDa> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use personal info image above]
4. What looks like a sack of trash to you can be a gold mine for an identity thief. Leaving credit card receipts, papers, or CDs with personally identifying information in a dumpster facilitates fraud and exposes consumers to the risk of identity theft. By properly disposing of sensitive information, you ensure that it cannot be read or reconstructed. Tips on avoiding a dumpster diving attack: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtju> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use shredding image below]



5. Taking steps to protect data in your possession can go a long way toward preventing a security breach. Nevertheless, breaches can happen. Here's how you can reduce the impact on your organization, employees, and customers: make a plan to respond to security incidents. Learn more: <https://go.usa.gov/xVtD3> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut [use worried about stolen data image below]



6. Taking steps to protect data in your possession can go a long way toward preventing a security breach. Nevertheless, breaches can happen. Watch this video on what to do after a data breach: <https://youtu.be/ijrmMecPAKE> #CharityFraud2019 #CharityFraudOut

OTHER POSTS FOR VIDEOS

1. When a natural disaster hits or a tragic event happens, you might be looking for ways to help the people and communities affected. Unfortunately, scammers also are busy trying to take advantage. You want to make sure your money gets in the hands of charities you want to help: <https://youtu.be/bG9u2GJOI7g> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut
2. Many charities do a great job supporting our nation's veterans, but a few take advantage of people's generosity. Learn how to research charities and how to avoid donating to a sham charity: <https://youtu.be/5D60luPj0Ew> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut
3. The tips in this video will help you donate wisely and avoid charity scams. It emphasizes the importance of researching charities before giving to make sure your donation is going to help the cause and people you care about: <https://youtu.be/KIPMiai9ILO> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut
4. Does your organization store and transmit sensitive data? If so, use strong encryption to keep it secure. Watch: <https://youtu.be/kLVpOn5HFbs> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut
5. Start with Security offers free, easy-to-use resources for building a culture of data security throughout any organization. Watch this video for tips on how to use and share the Start with Security resources with employees, customers and partners: <https://youtu.be/6ImxYtTxEeM> #CharityFraudOut2019 #CharityFraudOut