Policy Statement:

To provide procedural consistency and transparency when handling donation and event participation requests that may affect the public image of The Greater Buffalo United Accountable Healthcare Network (GBUAHN) and the Greater Buffalo United Independent Physician Association (GBUIPA).

Scope:

This policy is applicable to all internal and external donation and event participation requests received by GBUAHN/GBUIPA.

Procedure:

1. GBUAHN/GBUIPA Oversight Responsibility
   a. Requests for donations are to be sent to the Director of Marketing. No request is guaranteed to be viewed and accepted if it is sent to any other employee, including the executive and c-level teams.
   b. GBUAHN/GBUIPA reviews all charitable donations and event ticket purchases that are received in the Marketing Department. They are then reviewed with the Chief Operating Officer, and the Director of Marketing. Discussion of whether or not the donation fits within GBUAHN/GBUIPA's guidelines and if it is in the budget for the year, will be held as timely as possible. If the donation or event has been accepted, the GBUAHN/GBUIPA Marketing Department will send a confirmation email if that donation or event has been accepted.

2. Charitable Donations Focus
   a. GBUAHN/GBUIPA's main focus is on organizations that continue to bring better healthcare to Medicaid recipients in Erie County. This includes, but is not limited to:
i. Organizations focused on research of diseases, improvement of Medicaid care, and overall improvement of member health.

ii. Organizations that serve the similar population of outreach in healthcare.

iii. Organizations that improve quality of living and health.

iv. Organizations that partner, refer, or work with GBUAHN/GBUIPA and our mission.

v. Organizations that provide health, disease, and mental wellness education.

vi. Community organizations that provide direct service to patients and their caregivers and are based in geographic areas where we have a significant business presence.

3. **Criteria for Eligibility**

   a. A request for donations must be made at the minimum of 30 days before the event and or donation request.

   b. Currently GBUAHN/GBUIPA donates only to nonprofit organizations in Erie County, NY. To qualify as an eligible nonprofit organization. An organization must be a nonprofit or non-governmental organization with 501(c)(3) status under the United States Internal Revenue Code.

4. **Evaluation Criteria**

   a. Although the following aren’t deciding factors of a donation, we take into consideration:

      i. Whether funds are available for the requested donation.

      ii. Whether the charity, activity, or need to be served is in the geographic area served by GBUAHN/GBUIPA or has significant business of operation.

      iii. Whether evidence of the organization has developed the confidence and support of other funders

      iv. GBUAHN/GBUIPA’s prior support for similar or duplicative organizations.

5. **Exclusions**

   a. GBUAHN/GBUIPA supports charities and non-profit organizations that:

      i. Do not have activities which involve significant damage to the environment.

      ii. Does not discriminate unfairly to race, religion, disability, age, gender, or other issues that may fall against what GBUAHN/GBUIPA is trying to accomplish.

      iii. Does not have employment policies or practices that discriminate against race, religion, gender, disability, or other issues GBUAHN/GBUIPA is working towards breaking stigma against.


      v. Does not involve illegal drugs or paraphernalia.

      vi. Does not bring harm to humans or animals for the purpose of sport or entertainment.

      vii. Complies with the USA Patriot Act (or other applicable anti-terrorism rules/laws).

6. **Frequency of Donations**

   a. Generally, only one donation will be given in a calendar year to any non-profit organization.