Walmart Matching Funds Program

WALMART stores have a Matching Grant program. If you can get into it you can double the amount of money you collect in front of their stores up to a maximum of $2,000.00. The actual amount they'll match is up to the store manager and the size of the store. To apply for the Grant go to your nearest WALMART NOW and fill out an application form. The store only has so much money for charities and it may already be distributed. So act quickly.

The best approach to getting the matching funds is to send the store manager a letter describing who we are, the purpose of your M. R. drive and when you would like to solicit in front of his store. (This letter should also be used to get the store manager's permission for your drive even if you don't get the matching funds Grant).

If the store decides to consider the Knights of Columbus for matching funds they will give you an application form. Once this form is filled out it has to be approved by the store associates (the employees), the store manager, and the WALMART Corporation in Benton, Arkansas. Knowing the manager real well or someone who works at the store would help a great deal.

If you're given a Matching Funds Grant then you must turn in the money (up to the amount of the Grant) that you collect in front of the store to the store manager. He/She will deposit it in what they call a "150" account. The manager then calls Corporate Headquarters and gives them the amount that was collected. Corporate cuts two checks which are made out to the local I. D. organization (which must have a 501 c(3) IRS status). One is drawn from the "150" account (this is the money you gave WALMART) and the second is from the Corporate charity account. Both checks are for the same amount. You will then present these two checks to the I. D. organization in the name of the Knights of Columbus and the local WALMART store.

Many stores may have already committed their Grants to other charities. But try anyway. If you don't get a Grant send them a letter in January for next year's drive. They operate the fund on the calendar year. This is also why it's important that you contact your local store manager NOW.

When you report your net income you can include the amount from the WALMART store as "pass through" funds on Form 1 *but on a separate sheet you must identify WALMART as the organization which contributed this money, the organization to whom the money was allocated by them and include a copy of their check.* You should only send in a check for the other funds you collected which will be minus the WALMART amount.

One other thing, just because you might have received a Grant from a store last year, it doesn't mean that you won't get one this year. Although the stores get lots of requests and they like to spread their money around.

Also don't forget to send the store manager and the store associates a nice "Thank you" note with the K of C emblem after your drive is over. This will leave them feeling good about your council and can help your chances of getting a Grant next year.