



## Charities Concerned About Holiday Donations

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'Tis the season of giving, but a tight economy has the people in charge of charities worried folks might not open their wallets as wide as they have in past years.

It's a mixed bag for local charities this year. Some are seeing an increase in donations and others aren't. United Way officials say they've seen about a five percent increase in cash donations this year. The organization hopes to raise \$1.5 million dollars.

But money isn't the only measure of success. Officials say volunteering is just as valuable, which is something they're trying to emphasize.

"I think what we realize as the holiday season is upon us and we get away from the frenzy of shopping, when you get down to it, it's about home and heart, whatever that might mean to you," said Cathy Train with the United Way.

Central Virginia March of Dimes officials say donations are down because people just aren't feeling the winter holiday spirit yet.

Reported by Liz Nagy



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