# Holiday Campaigns That Work 3 billion reasons, 5 proven tips

**Patrick Hansen and Kenan Pollack** 

Senior Interactive Consultants



### **About Us**



Patrick Hansen

### **Senior Interactive Consultant**

- Eight years experience nonprofit web site development, database development, and marketing
- Four years R&D with IBM
- Published author with 12 patents
- Manager of the Convio Go! Program
- Client list includes Feeding America, National Relief Charities, National Women's Law Center, Paul Anderson Youth Home



### Kenan Pollack

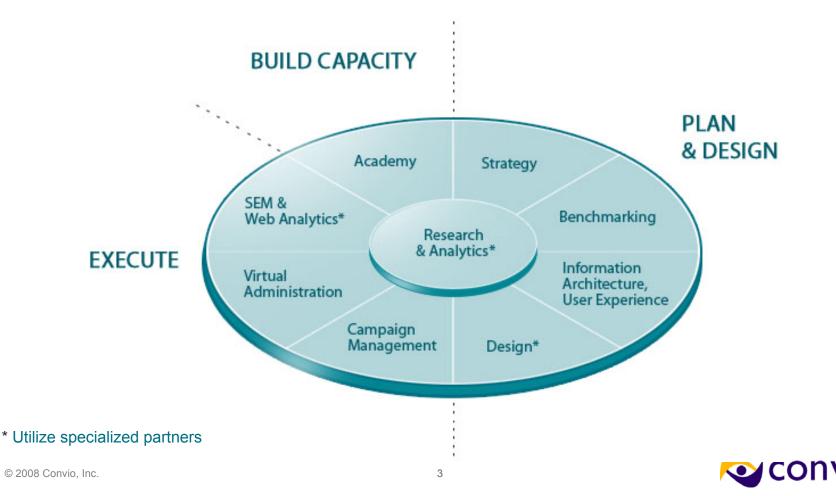
### **Senior Interactive Consultant**

- Twelve years experience web site development, content management and marketing
- Four years web site and IT management at Aid to Artisans
- Published book author and former national newsmagazine reporter
- Client list includes World Wildlife Fund, FairTax.org, Goodwill/Easter Seals of MN, American Diabetes Association



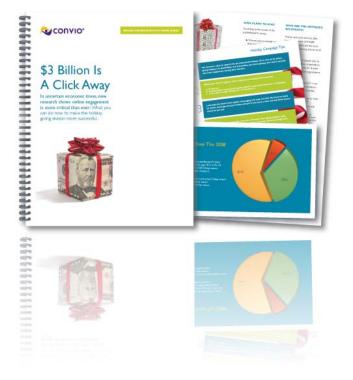
## **About Convio's Client Success Services**

50+ person agency within Convio to provide clients with the strategy, interactive services and online marketing best practices to achieve ongoing success



## \$3+ Billion Is A Click Away

- A new study by Convio and JupiterResearch found:
  - An estimated 89.5 million online US consumers plan to give more than <u>\$3 billion</u> to nonprofit organizations during the holiday season of 2008
- Will your organization be one of the lucky recipients?
  Don't leave it up to chance...





### Planned Spending over the 2008 Holiday Season

Some 46% of the group who said their financial situation became substantially worse over the past 12 months still plan to donate online this holiday season.

Also, **46% of 18-24year-olds and 50% of 25-34-year-olds plan** to donate online, with 13% planning to donate more this year than last

# Planned spending over the 2008 Holiday Season

US Online Adults (age 18+)

The Convio survey (conducted by JupiterResearch) asked a sample of 175.6 million online adults about their planned spending over the 2008 holiday season, including their plans regarding charitable donations.

- I plan on donating less than last holiday season
- I plan on donating more than last holiday season
- I plan on spending about the same amount as last holiday season

33%



61%



- 1. Send an appeal
- 2. Make it a multi-part campaign
- 3. Leverage direct mail
- 4. Test your messaging
- 5. Send a year-end message



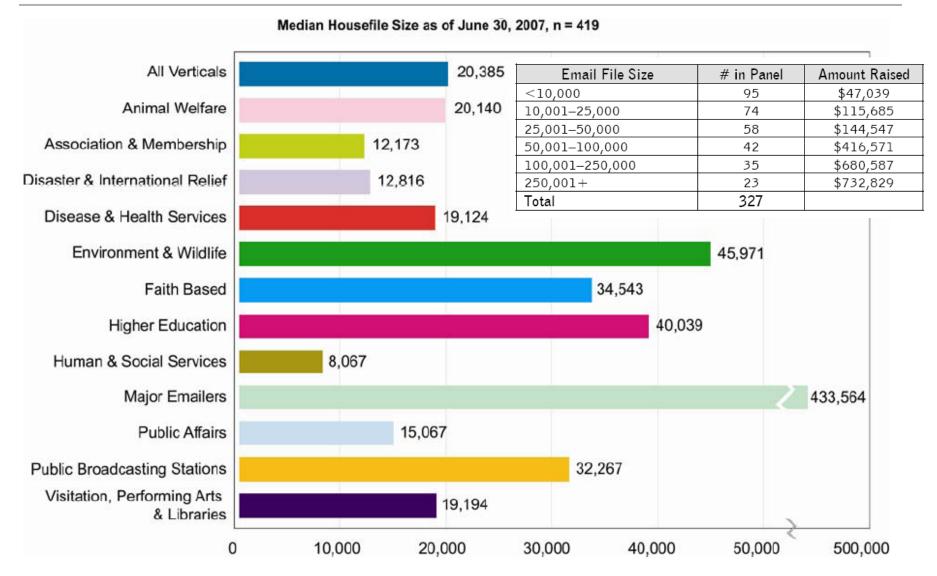


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## **Email file size and online income potential**





## Why plan a year-end appeal?

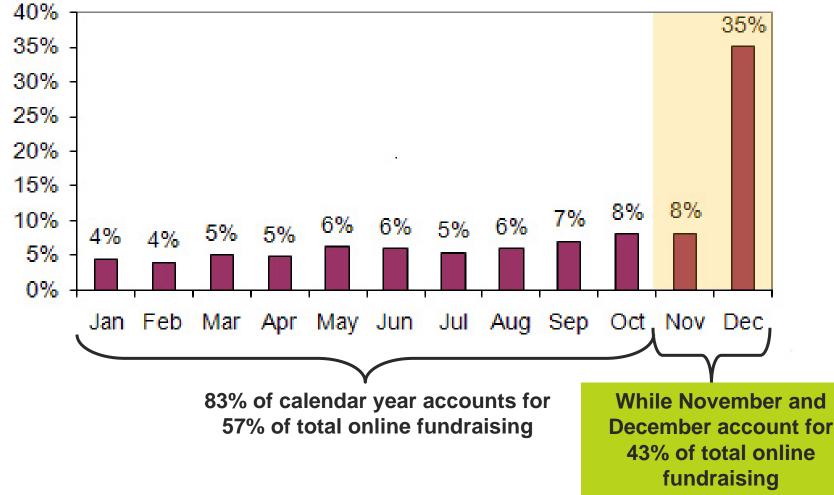


Source: 2007 Department of Commerce retail sales data



## Why plan a year-end appeal?

### **Fundraising by Month**



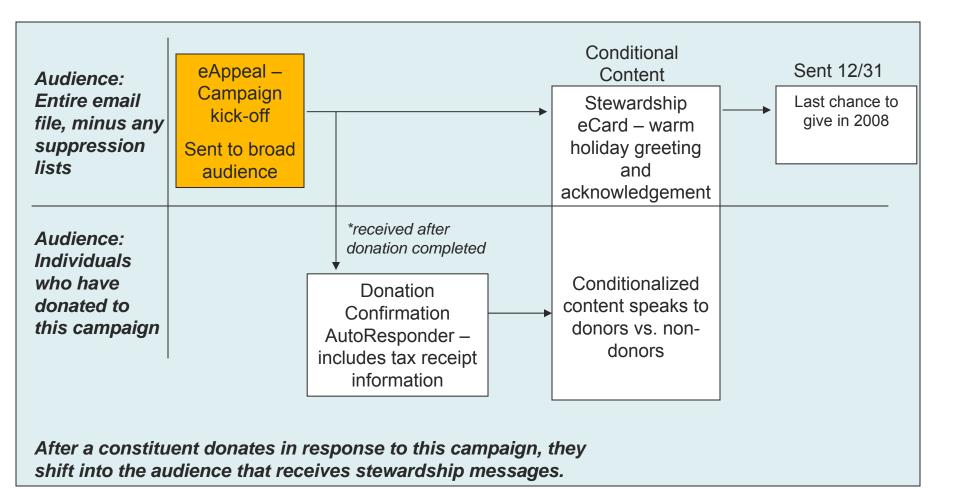
Source: Convio analysis of accounts during 2006 and 2007



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## **Tip #2: Multi-Part Campaigns**





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### **Campaign Kick-Off**

### Stewardship eCard

### Last-Chance to Give





## **Tip #2: Multi-Part Campaigns**

### **Campaign Kick-Off**



### November 28 through December 4

### Stewardship eCard



Citracal

#### Happy Holidays to You and Yours from The Riverwalk

and Santa's little helpers Elliott, Sebastian, and Jac!

Jazz Family...

Listen – Greetings from Jim Cullum

CONVIO:

December 15 to 23\*

| riverwalkjazz.org |

Unsubscribe | Update Profile

\*These dates are for December 25<sup>th</sup>/Christmas messaging; emails targeting Jewish supporters instead should be targeted around December 21st, the first night of Hanukkah this year.

### Last-Chance to Give



### **December 31**

Providing a "last-chance" December 31<sup>st</sup> message, regardless of day of week, is key for targeting those motivated by tax deduction.





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## **Tip #3: Leverage Direct Mail**

### **Offline Proof**



### **Online e-Appeal**

### ST. FRANCIS HOUSE 2007 Annual Fund TO FIGHT HOMELESSNESS

Give \$10

Give \$25

Give \$65

Give \$125

Give \$500

Your donations at work:

Every dollar counts in the fight against homelessness

who might go hungry without it.

leaving homelessness behind.

elements.

to feed a hot, hearty lunch to five men and women

to provide clothes and protect a guest from the

to provide an hour of professional mental health

to finance one day of our Moving Ahead Program,

committed to finding meaningful employment and

to serve a delicious, nutritious breakfast to everyone

counseling to ease a guest's troubled mind.

including temporary housing, for a student

who comes through our doors one morning.

#### Dear System,

Of all times to be homeless, winter is the absolute worst. The bitter New England cold can be deadly when you don't know where your next hot meal will come from or if you'll be lucky enough to get a bed for the night.

More than 800 poor and homeless men and women visit St. Francis House every day, and our services are even more critical during the winter months. <u>Help us continue to serve</u> <u>Boston's needy</u> by participating in the 2007 Annual Fund Drive to Fight Homelessness today.

We count on the <u>Annual Fund</u> drive to allow us to provide food, clothing, health care, job training, counseling and so many other life-changing services to the poor and homeless each year.

None of this would be possible without friends like you. No matter what the size of your gift, your help will make a difference. Please, <u>help our guests rebuild their lives</u> and leave homelessness behind for good.

With gratitude for your support,

Kaus La Jugia

Karen LaFrazia Executive Director

P.S. - A portion of all gifts received by April 30 will be matched by The Feinstein Foundation. So please -- act now. Thanks again.

Tell-A-Friend



### **Tip #3: Leverage Direct Mail**



If you are unable to view the message below, <u>Click Here</u> to view this message on our website

### The vital link between food and hunger

**Together, We're Providing Healthier Choices** 

Dear System,

Cleveland

Foodbank

Just yesterday, a 24-foot Cleveland Foodbank truck dropped off 9,400 pounds of fresh foods to our farmer's market site at Calvary Hill Baptist Church on Cleveland's east side. You can help us keep our trucks rolling to farmer's markets all across Northeast Ohio.

Our staff unloaded pallets of apples, onions, bread and dairy products so that the long line of children and their parents, the elderly, and others in need from the neighborhoods surrounding the church could have access to healthy foods.

This is one of nine free farmers market sites we run on a regular basis, and we need to increase this number. I'm sure that you, like I, have found that your food budget isn't going nearly as far as it used to. For families who are already strugging to make ends meet, it has become difficult to pay for necessities like rent or utilities and the nutritious foods they need most.

The produce and fresh foods we provide help ensure that the children, elderly and families we serve have the nutritious foods they need to stay healthy and help them get by in these days of high gas and food bills.

Please consider <u>making a gift online</u> to help us support our distribution of fresh foods through our Fresh Produce Initiative and all of our programs that bring healthy foods to local men, women, and children in need. It only costs one dollar to make 21 pounds of produce available to families that need them most. What an investment!

Thank you for your support of all the work we do!

Sincerely,

leve Cantode Gul

Anne Campbell Goodman Executive Director

p.s. If you've recently made a gift to the Foodbank, thank you so much for your generosity. We couldn't do it without you!

> Email: info@clevelandfoodbank.org 16500 South Waterloo Road, Cleveland, OH 44110 Phone 216.738.2265 Copyright © 2000-2007 Cleveland Foodbank, Inc., All Rights Reserved

This email was sent by the <u>Cleveland Foodbank</u>. Click here to unsubscribe or change your email preferences. <u>Click here to contact us</u> You may also view our <u>Privacy Policy online</u>.







Through our Fresh Produce Initiative, the Cleveland Foodbank provides over 113,400 pounds of produce at no cost to families in need each week! Your gift will provide critical support to this and all of our food distribution programs >>



- 1. Send an appeal
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- 3. Leverage direct mail

4. Test your messaging

5. Send a year-end message



## **Tip #4: Test Your Message**

- Given the economic situation this year, test (subject lines, content) message options (i.e. A/B variants) with the first send to see how your constituents respond.
- In the final message, go with the send that tested the best





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### Tip #5: Send a Year-end Message



#### Last chance to give in 2007

Dear System,

This is your last chance to give a hunger-fighting gift in 2007 and take advantage of the special \$250,000 matching grant to help families in need.

As you know, our goal is to fill 5.9 million bags for the holidays. We still have more than 2 million bags left to fill, and we need your help.

Remember, with our board of directors' matching grant, every dollar you give DOUBLES to provide not 4, but 8 bags of groceries.

#### Gifts given by Dec. 31 are tax-deductible for 2007.

Won't you give one last gift this year and help us fill 5.9 million bags of groceries?

Thank you for your partnership in the fight against hunger.

Sincerely,

Vick: Escana

Vicki Escarra President and CEO

P.S. Give one last gift in 2007 and DOUBLE YOUR SUPPORT to help fill 5.9 million bags of groceries this holiday and fill the shelves of our near-empty food banks and pantries!

#### Privacy Policy Subscribe Unsubscribe How We Work DONATE NOW!

uestions? If you have any questions about this message or any other America's Second Harvest issue, please <u>contact us</u> or call

America's Second Harvest — The Nation's Food Bank Network, 35 E. Wacker, Suite 2000,



GIVE NOW!

Remember, we're faced with a major shortage right now and need to raise funds for an additional 400 truckloads above and beyond our normal holiday campaign. Please help!



## Where Do I Begin?

Getting an end-of-year campaign out the door in November/December means *starting now*. Here's what to consider:

	November	December	January	
Main Priorities	Theme/message planning, draft copy and creative for appeal	Finalize, approve and proof copy and design elements. Build!	Begin 2009 relationship and start working on next steps, including monthly program.	
Type of work/ effort needed	Brainstorming and copy- writing. Design mockups if possible.	Begin production of email and donation forms and related pages with proofed copy.	Maintain stewardship pieces (newsletters) and develop monthly giving program if not already in place.	
Key Objectives	Have theme and visuals (borrowing from direct mail appeal if possible) nailed down.	Send all messages, in particular the 12/31 one. TEST ALL EMAIL AND DONATION FORMS AS OUTSIDE USER!	Don't go silent on your newest or repeat donors! Engage them with next steps going into 2009.	



### How Do I Predict & Measure Success?

	File Size (usable)	Open Rate	Click- through Rate	Response Rate (blended)	# of Gifts	Avg. Gift Size	Total Amount Raised
Low	10,000	10%	2%	.1%	10	\$50	\$500
Middle	10,000	20%	4%	.3%	30	\$100	\$3,000
High	10,000	30%	10%	.5%	50	\$150	\$7,500

- Key indicators, such as response rates, vary based on audience segment—i.e. previous donors perform better than non-donors
- Defining an "average" gift can vary materially between organizations look at your own data to determine benchmarks
- Year-end appeals need multi-part messaging to provide repeat opportunities to give, including December 31<sup>st</sup> "last chance"
- Direct returns shown. (Does not account for *whitemail*—gifts that cannot be attributed to specific appeals—*which may account for 75% of funding*)



## **About Convio**

- Leading provider of software and consulting to help nonprofits drive support online
- Focus on helping nonprofits get results from their online investment
- Internet strategy and campaign consulting capabilities



# Thank you!

To download the Free Holiday 2008 Giving Report please visit: www.convio.com/holiday2008\_web

To download a copy of the presentation slides please visit:

www.convio.com/holiday2008\_slides

