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PROTECTING OUR  
ENVIRONMENT



STRENGTHENING  
OUR COMMUNITIES



ADVANCING OUR  
LEADERSHIP

# ANNUAL CSR REPORT 2017

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# A Message From Our CEO...



We have always invested time and resources in sustainability, strategic philanthropy, and community engagement. This year we inaugurate a formal corporate social responsibility (CSR) program. I am proud to share this company's first CSR Annual Report.

Within our CSR strategy, our employees are the first stakeholders. We offer competitive salaries, first-class healthcare benefits, and professional development to our staff, so they can be empowered to give the highest level of performance.

State and Federal Communications provides government compliance information and consulting services to Fortune 500 companies; trade, professional, and labor organizations; legal and accounting firms; and corporate and contract lobbyists. We serve their needs with the highest professional standards. We consider our support for the government affairs industry as a matter of leadership and we back this leadership with participation and sponsorships in key national organizations.

We never forget we have the privilege to make a living in Akron, Ohio. For us, good corporate citizenship means working in whatever way we can to strengthen our community and make it a better place to live. State and Federal Communications maintains partnerships with regional philanthropic organizations and offers charitable service hours to the employees, so they can get out and volunteer in the community.

Thank you for your interest in our CSR program. We remain committed to being a good corporate citizen nationally and in Northeast Ohio.

Best wishes,  
*Elizabeth Bartz*  
President and CEO  
State and Federal Communications



- ### Groups & Organizations We Have Supported
- International Orthodox Christian Charities
  - Akron Children's Hospital
  - Summit County Children Services
  - Boy's and Girl's Club
  - Summit and Medina County Battered Women's Shelter
  - CORE Furniture Bank
  - Susan G. Komen Race for a Cure
  - Kent State University Student Passport Program
  - WKSU Radio
  - Akron Canton Regional Foodbank

## HIGHLIGHTS



State and Federal Communications is an information resource company. We do not engage in any manufacturing process, which could affect the water table or air quality, but we are conscious of what our work processes can do to the environment.

This company generates large quantities of paper, so we recycle paper and cardboard waste. We partner with SecureShred (Weaver Industries, Akron OH) for paper waste

and River Valley Paper of Akron, OH for corrugated paper waste.<sup>1</sup> While we do not track the volume, State and Federal Communications also recycles aluminum cans through the City of Akron. In 2014, our company stopped buying bottled water and began using reverse-osmosis water dispensers, eliminating the generation of hundreds of plastic bottles being thrown away.



Fluorescent bulbs are toxic to the environment when disposed of improperly. State and Federal Communications makes the investment of the safe disposal of spent fluorescent bulbs with Veolia North America. We have a program in place to replace fluorescent bulbs in the ceiling fixtures with LED bulbs. This investment will lower the company's use of electricity, and LED bulbs have a longer lifespan, requiring fewer replacements per year.

All curbside single stream items, kitchen related plastics, glass, and all other, general paper products are handled by the City of Akron via Greenstar Recycling of Houston, TX.<sup>2</sup>

E-waste, such as computers, electronic devices and batteries all constitute a hazard to landfills when disposed of improperly. State and Federal Communications works with eWASTE of Hudson, OH to remove our discarded units.

<sup>1</sup> Corrugated/cardboard recovery became part of the Akron curbside-program during 2017, and is no longer tracked or reported independently through River Valley.  
<sup>2</sup> Akron's Curbside Recycling program does not report back individual results - instead, community results are reported in the aggregate, as needed.



State and Federal Communications is proud to work in Akron, Ohio. To strengthen our community, we are committed to four corporate social initiatives: Strategic philanthropy, community engagement, education, and diversity.

This company’s primary philanthropic focus is its United Way campaign. We partner with The United Way of Summit County because of its commitment to community impact. We have held United Way campaigns for the last 18



years. To maximize our community impact, State and Federal Communications matches every dollar donated by its employees.

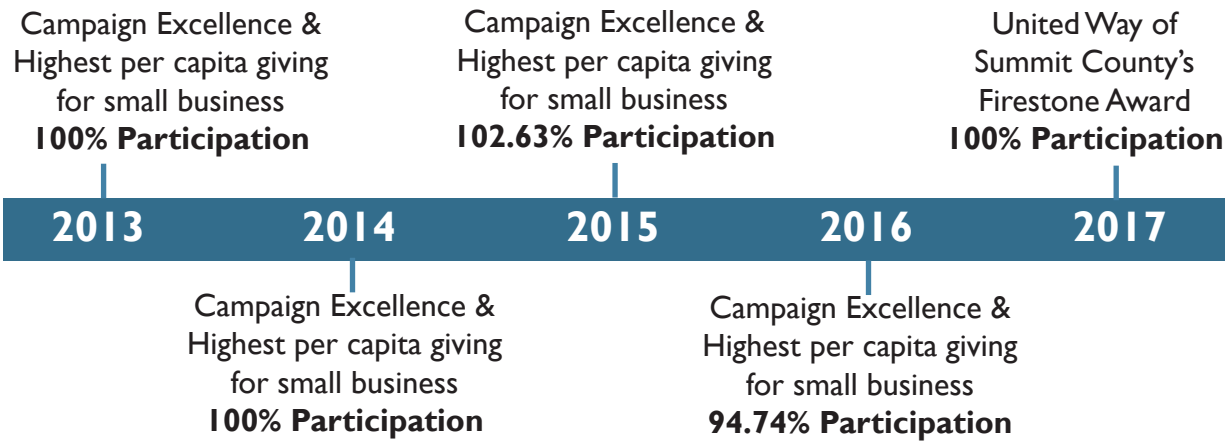
State and Federal Communications had 100% employee participation in its 2017 campaign. The company received the United Way of Summit County’s Firestone Award for highest per employee gift in a company with fewer than 100 employees.

Additionally, we collected 588 individual snacks were collected for the United Way Snack Pack drive. Socks are one of the most useful items for people who are homeless. We collected 302 pairs of socks for our 2017 Holiday Service Project and donated them to Akron’s Haven of Rest Ministries.

## Strategic Philanthropy



Employee Gift **\$26,274.72**  
 Corporate Gift **\$26,274.72**  
 Donut & Cider Sale **\$716.90**  
**Campaign Total \$53,266.34**



## Community Engagement

State and Federal Communications recognizes the great value of volunteering in the community. In addition to the money we raise in philanthropy, our employees have the opportunity for direct contact with the needs of our community. Hands-on volunteering experience has been important for the company’s leadership skills, team building, and familiarity with the needs of Akron, Ohio.

Our Charitable Service Program: As a benefit of donating 1% of their salary to the United Way campaign, employees of State and Federal Communications receive 24 hours of charitable service. The employee can use those hours at the nonprofit of their choice. The staff have volunteered at Summit County CASA, The Akron Canton Regional Foodbank, the Akron Urban League, Project Grad Akron, among other organizations.

- United Way Day of Action
- Annunciation Church Good Samaritans Food Distribution
- CASA Summit County
- Akron Urban League
- Project Grad Akron

## Education

Supporting education is one of the key ways we can strengthen our community. State and Federal Communications has offered a paid internship program to a total of 49 university students in Northeast Ohio since 2002. In 2017, three interns participated in the program. The interns learn what it means to function in a professional setting, they work on projects that add value to the company, they work with nonprofit organizations doing good in the community, and they are afforded networking and professional development opportunities in the Leadership Akron Edge program.

**3 Interns**  
 Summer of 2017

**49 Interns**  
 Since 2002

## Diversity

At the 17th Annual OMNIKAL National Business Summit at The Harvard Club in New York City on May 18, 2017, State and Federal Communications and its President and CEO, Elizabeth Z. Bartz, were honored with a key diversity award as a Top 100 Women-Owned Business in Ohio. It is the only business in Akron, Ohio named to the list.

Each year OMNIKAL (formerly DiversityBusiness.com) collects and compiles data that results in the “Top Businesses Lists” on a state and national level. More than 2 million businesses in the United States have the opportunity to participate in the annual OMNIKAL business survey. OMNIKAL selects winning companies after reviewing each entrant’s business profile, website, and gross annual sales. State and Federal Communications has won an “America’s Top Business” award every year since 2008.



## National Organizations We Support

- ◆ National Institute for Lobbying and Ethics
- ◆ Public Affairs Council
- ◆ Council on Governmental Ethics Laws
- ◆ Council of State Governors
- ◆ State Government Affairs Council
- ◆ Washington Area State Relations Group
- ◆ National Conference of State Legislatures
- ◆ Women In Government Relations
- ◆ U.S. Chamber of Commerce



State and Federal Communications booth



President and CEO, Elizabeth Bartz, introducing the guest speaker at Akron Roundtable

State and Federal Communications is a leader in the government relations industry. We participate in the major national conferences pertaining to all aspects of government relations, public affairs, and advocacy. We believe the messages of ethical behavior and government relations compliance must be present in the industry discourse. This company has a long history of maintaining memberships in all of the key government affairs organizations. It offers major sponsorships and donations to organizations ensuring the wellbeing of the industry.

President and CEO, Elizabeth Bartz, presenting at Public Affairs Council



President and CEO, Elizabeth Bartz, with Akron Mayor Dan Horrigan





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