Protect Yourself – Romance Scams

The Community Foundation’s Preventing Financial Scams Initiative protects our community. Here are some tips for romance scams:

- Never send money or gifts to someone you have not met in person
- Be incredibly cautious of people saying the need money for emergency expenses
- Be on guard if a person is “working abroad” or is from another country
- Meet the person you have connected with in-person within five days
- People who confess love quickly are normally scammers
- Scammers will ask you to create a new bank account to commit online bank fraud. Scammers will deposit stolen money into the new account and ask you to wire money out of the country.
- Have a healthy skepticism with people you meet online – no matter how charming they are
- If you suspect someone is an imposter online, ask a friend or family member for their opinion
- If using Google Chrome, verify if the person’s photo is real by right clicking their photo and selecting “Search Google for image.” If the photo appears on other sites with a different name it is probably being used as a scam.
- Limit the personal information you share online. Keep your communication limited to the dating site or in person

Reporting the Scam:
- Contact your bank immediately if you suspect you sent money to a scammer
- File a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission at [https://ftc.gov/complaint](https://ftc.gov/complaint) or the FBI at [https://ic3.gov/](https://ic3.gov/)
- Report the incident to the dating site
  50 Washington Street, Suite 300 // Reno, NV 89503 // 775-333-5499 // nevadafud.org

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