PROPOSED TAX REFORM COULD IMPACT LOCAL CHARITIES

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By Morgan Lentes

If you follow national politics, we do not have to tell you the government needs to increase revenue. But one cost cutting proposal is not sitting well with some local charities. For example, the president and CEO of the Christian Appalachian Project, Guy Adams, tells WYMT that limiting the charitable tax deduction could hurt his organization.

The CAP warehouse in Corbin is full, thanks in large part to the giving of others.

“We have shown greater than any country on earth a love of human kind and a willingness to give,” said Adams.

But Adams worries if lawmakers limit the amount a person can deduct from their taxes after donating that all might change.

“The Great Recession has put us in a position where we have had to make some pretty substantial cutbacks and we are saying ‘Hey, no piling on, we do not need an additional hurdle to jump over’,” said Adams.

The warehouse is jammed pack with clothing, school supplies and even bottles of water. However CAP does not just help people here in Kentucky, They help people in all 13 states that make up Appalachia. For warehouse manager Mary Shelley working for the charity is an honor.

“That is part of my job description is knowing what we have and what the people have need of and helping them in different areas,” said Shelley.

But that reach could shorten and limit the number of people these products can help.

“We have lost our lead in some areas. We do not want to lose it in charitable giving,” said Adams.

He said the government should find a another way to cut costs.

“We have not had a change in the deductibles of charitable giving for going on a hundred years and why fool with something that works so well,” said Adams.

Staff hope to catch a lucky break to continue delivering hope to homes across the region. Adams added this new tax reform would especially impact individuals who donate large amounts of money to charities and other non profits.