



# Public Service Announcement

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION



**July 19, 2005**

## **NIGERIAN SCAM CONNING DISABLED USING UNICEF'S REPUTABLE NAME**

Nigerian con artists are posing as US Citizens working for UNICEF on dating websites designed for disabled people. The con artist preys on the victim's emotions and establishes a relationship with promises of romantic involvement and possible marriage. The subjects claim to be carrying out volunteer work for UNICEF in African countries, most often Nigeria. After several emails are exchanged, the subject asks for money to return to the United States in order to pursue their relationship with the victim. The subject often provides other hard luck stories (lack of food/shelter) to encourage the victim to send additional funds.

- Be skeptical of individuals representing themselves as members of well known charitable organizations asking for your monetary aid.
- Do not be led astray by your emotional desires for companionship.
- Guard your account information carefully.
- If you know someone who is involved with this type of correspondence, encourage them to contact their local FBI.

If you have received a fraud, or similar e-mail, please file a complaint at [www.IC3.gov](http://www.IC3.gov).