

# Chicago



**3,888**

NUMBER OF GIVING ACCOUNTS



**50,725**

NUMBER OF GRANTS



**\$343M**

TOTAL GRANT DOLLARS FROM REGION



**\$6,762**

AVERAGE GRANT AMOUNT



**13.1**

AVERAGE NUMBER OF GRANTS PER GIVING ACCOUNT®



**53%**

PERCENTAGE OF GRANT DOLLARS TO LOCAL CHARITIES

As the third largest city in the United States, Chicago is a bustling center for philanthropic activity. In 2018, Fidelity Charitable® donors in the Chicago metro area increased their grant recommendations by more than two thirds year-over-year—recommending \$343 million in grants to charity. Donors in the area recommended grants totaling \$182 million to local charities, and the city ranked fourth nationally in charitable giving to the human services sector, which includes many of the organizations providing food, shelter and programs for vulnerable populations listed among the top local charities.

## MOST POPULAR CHARITABLE SECTORS



## MOST POPULAR NONPROFITS SUPPORTED BY FIDELITY CHARITABLE® DONORS IN THE REGION

1	Greater Chicago Food Depository	—
2	Window to the World Communications	—
3	The Salvation Army	—
4	Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago	—
5	Chicago Public Media	—
6	Northwestern University	—
7	Northern Illinois Food Bank	^ 1
8	University of Chicago	v 1
9	Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago	—
10	Art Institute of Chicago	—

# Highlights in Chicago giving



## Consistent local support

Donors in Chicago have shown that they are committed to the local causes they support; all of the top 10 local grant recipients in 2018 also appeared on the 2017 list, with the top six charities unchanged. Human services organizations are well-represented on the list—particularly those affiliated with religious groups, such as the Salvation Army and Catholic Charities. These charities align with the important role religion plays as a driver for Fidelity Charitable donors. Public media organizations are also featured on the list, despite arts and culture not being a prominent charitable sector overall in Chicago.

## Active and generous grantmaking

Donors in Chicago gave more to the causes they care about, with an average grant amount of \$6,762—65 percent higher than the national average of \$4,092. Chicago donors are also more actively engaged in recommending grants. Averaging 13.1 grants per Giving Account® in 2018, they were more active than the national average of 10.4.

## Diverse and far-reaching

Chicago-area grantmaking ranks in the top 10 for three of the eight giving sectors—human services (ranked fourth), health (seventh) and international affairs (eighth). With more than nine million residents, the region balances a diverse set of needs and interests that influence its giving.

## GIVING SECTOR SPOTLIGHT

### Human services

Human services is the most popular charitable sector among Chicago donors, with 59 percent of Giving Accounts sending support to charities like food banks and homeless shelters. Many of these organizations serve the local area, with its longer and more extreme winters that often leave poor or homeless residents vulnerable. The city ranks fourth nationally in support to these nonprofits, demonstrating that Chicago is a city committed to addressing the human needs in their community.

#### Most popular human services charities supported by donors from the Chicago area:

- Greater Chicago Food Depository
- Salvation Army
- American Red Cross

The data for this report was obtained from Fidelity Charitable's internal reporting database and looks at Fidelity Charitable activity in calendar year 2018. For additional detail on reporting methodology, visit [FidelityCharitable.org/geography-of-giving](https://www.FidelityCharitable.org/geography-of-giving).

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