

WASHINGTON, D.C.



A snapshot of charitable support from donors in the Washington-Arlington-Alexandria metro area

Washington, D.C.'s global and cultural awareness give it a charitable identity that stands apart from other metropolitan areas, combining both international and local support.

Washington may be known for its politics, but the policy, advocacy and nonprofit work that go hand-in-hand with government also make the nation's capital fertile ground for philanthropic endeavors. And giving is growing among Washington's Fidelity Charitable® donors. In 2016, the area outpaced Giving Accounts nationally for increases in both the number of grants (17 percent vs. 14 percent nationally) and grant dollars (25 percent vs. 15 percent). More than half of the \$86.7 million in donor-recommended grants from the Washington-area grants last year went to local charities—a 34 percent rise in grants to area nonprofits.



Number of Giving Accounts

2,315



Average grant amount

\$3,251



Number of grants

26,661



Average number of grants per Giving Account®

11.5



Total grant dollars from the region

\$86.7M

Where does D.C. rank for giving to various causes compared to other U.S. cities?

2nd

International Affairs

Most popular international affairs charities supported by D.C. area donors

- 1 Doctors Without Borders
- 2 International Rescue Committee
- 3 Oxfam America



In Washington, the international feels local. Its identity as a center of policy and advocacy, which impacts nonprofits and engages and attracts diverse backgrounds and nationalities, lends itself to a global view unlike any other major city. As a result, world events do not seem distant to Washington residents, and this top-of-mind awareness creates a consistent charitable response to global crises and urgent needs; 34 percent of the area's Giving Accounts supported international affairs last year, compared with 26 percent nationally. These demographics reflect its support of charities such as Doctors Without Borders and the International Rescue Committee; these organizations saw an increase in 2016 support from Washington-area donors due in large part to the Syrian refugee crisis.

5th

Arts & Culture

Most popular arts and culture charities supported by D.C. area donors

- 1 WETA
- 2 U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum
- 3 Smithsonian Institution



As important as Washington's global mindset is its role as a center of symbolism, education and living history in the United States—a role that shows in the priority that Fidelity Charitable® donors here place on arts and cultural organizations. Museums and cultural institutions that attract tourists are also a part of residents' daily life, a fact that is integrated into their giving. Several noteworthy events in 2016 influenced arts and culture giving, including the opening of the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture and the completion of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum's capital campaign, which surpassed its fundraising goal. The Renwick Gallery at the Smithsonian American Art Museum also increased its reach, following a renovation and newly launched interactive engagement on social media.

Other branches of charitable support

Washington also ranks fifth for Giving Account® support of the education sector—no surprise given that the region is the most educated in the United States.¹ Americans who hold a bachelor's degree are more likely to prioritize the role of education and to donate to educational organizations. The nation's capital is also seventh for giving to the environment and animals, with residents supporting both local and national organizations in the sector.

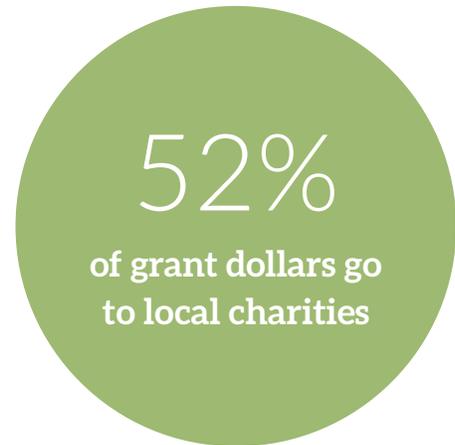
To learn more about how Washington, D.C. stacks up against other cities, visit [FidelityCharitable.org/geography-of-giving](https://www.fidelitycharitable.org/geography-of-giving).

Local focus

Most popular local nonprofits supported by Fidelity Charitable® donors in the region

Nonprofit (year-over-year movement in ranking)

- 1 WETA
- 2 American University
- 3 So Others Might Eat
- 4 Capital Area Food Bank
- 5 The Jewish Federation of Greater Washington
- 6 Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad (+1)
- 7 Martha's Table (+1)
- 8 Bread for the City (new)
- 9 Protestant Episcopal Cathedral Foundation
- 10 House of Ruth (new)



Washington grew local giving by more than a third last year, but the city is extraordinarily consistent when it comes to which local charities it supports; the top 5 organizations from 2015 are still the top 5 in 2016, and only two new organizations made the list overall. The two highest-ranked—public media nonprofit WETA and American University—reflect regional priorities in both arts and culture and education. Importantly, although Washington did not outpace other metropolitan areas in the number of Giving Accounts that supported human services organizations, five of its top 10 local nonprofits receiving support were from the human services sector: So Others Might Eat, Capital Area Food Bank, Martha's Table, Bread for the City and House of Ruth. With a notable income gap in the area, this fact shows donors' awareness of the need for social services.

¹ New York Times, "Cities with the Most College Educated Residents," May 30, 2012.

The data for this report was obtained from Fidelity Charitable's internal reporting database and looks at Fidelity Charitable activity in calendar year 2016.

National nonprofits were filtered from the D.C. metro top local nonprofits list. For additional details on reporting methodology, visit [FidelityCharitable.org/geography-of-giving](https://www.fidelitycharitable.org/geography-of-giving).

Fidelity Charitable is the brand name for Fidelity® Charitable Gift Fund, an independent public charity with a donor-advised fund program. Various Fidelity companies provide services to Fidelity Charitable. The Fidelity Charitable logo is a service mark, and the Fidelity Charitable name and Fidelity are registered service marks, of FMR LLC, used by Fidelity Charitable under license. Giving Account® is a registered service mark of the Trustees of Fidelity Charitable. 812251.1.0