Nonprofit Reference List

Did you know there are more than 1.8 million nonprofit organizations in the U.S.? To help define what contribution you would like to make and which organizations might appeal to you the most, ask yourself "What issues do I care about most?" (racial justice, environmentalism, global warming, homelessness, health, or a particular disease, etc.) and also "What strategies for impact best fit my interests and skills?" (advocacy, direct service, education, research, etc.). To get you started, here are a few examples and nonprofit organizations in each. Keep in mind, many organizations work in more than one of these categories.

Advocacy

- Planned Parenthood Federation of America
- Human Rights Campaign
- AARP
- NAACP
- Defenders of Wildlife
- The Nature Conservancy

Social Services

- Share our Strength/No Kid Hungry
- Food & Friends
- Special Olympics, Inc.
- United Service Organization
- International Rescue Committee (IRC)
- CARE

Scientific/Educational

- Smithsonian Institution
- National Geographic Society
- Libraries & Museums

Voluntary Health

- The ALS Association
- Alzheimer's Association
- ALSAC/St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital
- American Cancer Society, Inc
- American Heart Association

Professional/Trade Associations

- The American Society of Association Executives
- American Marketing Association
- American Bar Association
- US Chamber of Commerce

Research Tools & Resources:

www.charitynavigator.org/
www.guidestar.org/
www.give.org/

NOTE: Many for-profit companies (marketing & fundraising agencies, PR firms, accounting & financial services, legal compliance, technology services, etc.) also work alongside nonprofits in the social good sector.