Why America Gives: Insights from 1,000 Donors

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The State of Nonprofit Giving

- According to the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, the percentage of American households that donate to charity fell to under 50% for the first time since the Philanthropy Panel Study began tracking charitable giving.
- Last year, inflation reached a 40-year high, hitting 8.5%.
- Still, **90%** of *Why America Gives* survey respondents said they planned to give the same or more in 2022 as they did the year prior.



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Why This Disconnect?

- People can give in new and different ways, which presents opportunities and challenges to your organization.
- You have the opportunity to connect your organization to engaged individuals who are eager to contribute to the advancement of the world we live in.
- But you must cut through the clutter and truly connect with donors who care about your cause
- To do this, you must build a holistic fundraising strategy that allows you to deepen relationships with your supporters.



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How?

Let's look at data points from over 1,000 donors to understand their behaviors and motivations so your organization can tap into these insights to create meaningful, long-term relationships.





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Why do People Give?

Top reasons included:

- An increase in donor passion
- An increase in the need for donations
- An increase in the cause's relevance

60% of donors gave to new causes in response to a newsworthy event

- International human rights crises
- Climate change
- Reproductive rights and women's health
- Disability rights



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Cultivate Relationships With Loyal Donors



Loyal donors are **2x as likely to increase donations** and give at **4x the donation amount** compared to a passive donor.



37% are open to giving to multiple organizations they're passionate about.



They are **1.5x as likely to donate** because they feel admiration and gratitude for the work your organization does.



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Turn Transactions Into Relationships

- The #1 way loyal donors say they build relationships is donating on the organization's website
- 57% of ALL donors say giving through an organization's website is how they prefer to build relationships
- 60% of ALL donors say website is top place they go to get info before donating



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What About Passive Donors?

- 70% donate to just one organization or cause
- Passive donors are 45% more likely to give to an individual on GFM
- Almost ²/₃ of passive donors who give to an individual are likely to do their own research after giving to learn more about charitable organizations that support that cause



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Capturing the Interest of Passive Donors



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Meet Donors Where They Are

- Next-gen donors are **2.5x as likely** to prefer email updates at least bimonthly (traditional donors prefer quarterly or less frequent cadence)
- Traditional donors have established relationships
 with organizations
- **71% of all donors** are most likely to learn about new causes from friends and family
- Next-gen donors are 4x as likely to learn about causes from influencers and celebrities
- 69% of next-gen donors prefer to hear from organizations on social media



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Insights Into Action

Why America Gives 2022





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