



THE AMERICAN EXPRESS NETWORK

USE YOUR CARD TO PAY EVERYDAY BILLS

Choosing a Charity

According to the National Center for Charitable Statistics, there are currently more than 850,000 public charities and more than 104,000 private foundations registered with the IRS. In addition, there are more than 463,000 other types of nonprofit organizations, such as chambers of commerce, fraternal organizations, and civic leagues. With so many worthy causes, how do you choose one?

Start by deciding what is important to you - there will almost always be an organization dedicated to your chosen cause. Then find out what percentage of donations actually goes toward the cause and how much is spent on administrative costs. The Charities Review Council recommends that no more than 30 percent of a charity's revenues are spent on administration and fundraising combined. Check with independent evaluator charitynavigator.org for reputable organizations. A little homework on your part will ensure that your money is put to good use.