

2026 DONOR SURVEY

# Funding in Focus

Discover what we heard from our private foundation and donor-advised fund clients as they gear up for giving this year.

## Philanthropy Predictions

This year, funders expect overall giving in the US to:



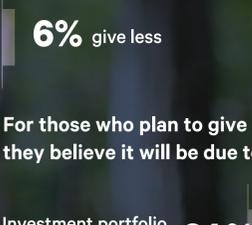
## Their Top Reasons Why



*Those using DAFs, in my humble opinion, are immune to many of the economic changes and so contribution levels would be similar.*

*"We continue to exceed the minimum distribution requirement and that probably won't change."*

Compared to last year, funders personally plan to:



For those who plan to give more, they believe it will be due to...



## Looking Ahead At Giving

*Our investment portfolio performance has increased the funds available for charitable use.*

*"I have a personal goal to give a larger fraction of my income each year."*

For those who plan to give less, it's usually one-time anomalies, such as a larger prior-year gift.

*"We are pausing to reassess mission, goals and our grantees."*

## Top 5 Priorities



*"We are mostly looking to support existing nonprofits."*

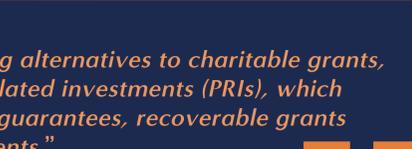
## Top 3 Challenges



*Our priority is to engage the next generation—seven out of eight of our trustees are fourth generation."*

## Becoming a More Effective Donor

They're considering these activities...



*We are investigating alternatives to charitable grants, such as program-related investments (PRIs), which include loans, loan guarantees, recoverable grants and equity investments."*

*"We are sharing the philosophy of DAFs with others to increase overall charitable giving."*

## Top 5 Areas of Interest



## Top Causes They Care About



*We are interested in youth and disaster relief through Christian organizations."*

*"We want to create opportunities for women and children's economic security and personal growth."*

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The data presented here is from a digital survey conducted between December 17, 2025 and January 31, 2026. Responses are from 256 private non-operating foundations and 94 donor-advised fund account holders with the sponsoring organization, Charityvest.