



**The Center on Philanthropy**  
**AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY**  
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**Executive Summary**  
**Million Dollar List**  
**First Quarter 2009**

The Center on Philanthropy compiled a list of **416 gifts of \$1 million or more in the first quarter of 2009** that were announced in various newsletters, newspapers, and other publications. This is a decrease of over 27 percent from the 573 gifts reported in the fourth quarter of 2008. There was 1 gift for disaster relief in the fourth quarter of 2008, and no gifts for disaster relief in the first quarter of 2009. After removing these gifts from the counts, the change is from 572 to 416 gifts, which is a decrease of over 27 percent. The following summary shows the changes in donations from the previous quarter and previous year to the first quarter of 2009.

*The tabulation of million dollar gifts is estimated by Arthur C. Frantzreb, creator of the original Million Dollar List, to be one-fourth to one-half of the gifts actually consummated during the quarter.* Gifts to health care, religious organizations, cultural institutions, social service agencies and other organizations are not reported in a systematic way by any one source.

**Changes from the Fourth Quarter 2008 to the First Quarter 2009**

- The number of gifts from individual donors decreased from 163 to 128, or a decrease of over 21 percent. There were no gifts from individuals to disaster relief in either quarter.
- The total number of corporate, foundation, and other institutional gifts decreased from 410 to 288, or by almost 30 percent. In the fourth quarter of 2008 there was 1 gift for disaster efforts, and there were no disaster gifts in the first quarter of 2009. Without the disaster relief contributions, the change is from 409 to 288, or a decrease of almost 30 percent. Of the 288 gifts in the first quarter of 2009, there were 7 gifts from other institutions not included as corporations or foundations (such as graduating classes, unions, or fraternal organizations) on which further comparative analysis is not included.
- The number of corporate donations fell from 76 to 46, or by over 39 percent. There were no corporate donations for disaster relief in either quarter.
- The number of foundation gifts fell from 323 to 235, or over 27 percent. There were no foundation gifts for disaster relief in the first quarter of 2009, while there was 1 disaster gift in the fourth quarter of 2008. Without the gifts for disaster relief, the change is from 322 to 235, or a decrease of 27 percent.

- The number of gifts from all donors combined fell from 573 to 416, or over 27 percent. Excluding gifts for disaster relief from both quarters, the change is from 572 to 416, a decrease of over 27 percent.

### **Changes from First Quarter 2008 to First Quarter 2009**

- The number of gifts from individual donors decreased from 267 to 128, a decrease of over 52 percent. There were no gifts for disaster relief in either quarter.
- The number of corporate, foundation, and other institutional gifts decreased from 406 to 288, or 29 percent. There were 5 institutional gifts for disaster relief in the first quarter of 2008 and none in the first quarter of 2009. With these disaster relief gifts excluded, the change is from 401 to 288, a decrease of 28 percent. Of the 288 gifts in the first quarter of 2009, there were 7 gifts from other institutions not included as corporations or foundations (such as graduating classes, unions, or fraternal organizations) on which further comparative analysis is not included.
- The number of corporate donations fell from 102 to 46, or by almost 55 percent. There was 1 corporate gift to disaster relief in the first quarter of 2008, and none in the first quarter of 2009. Excluding disaster giving from corporations, there was a decrease of over 54 percent.
- The number of foundation grants fell from 288 to 235, or over 18 percent. There were 4 foundation gifts for disaster relief in the first quarter of 2008, while there were no disaster gifts in the first quarter of 2009. Excluding these gifts, the change is from 284 to 235, or a decrease of over 17 percent.
- The total number of gifts from individuals, foundations, corporations, and other donors fell from 673 to 416, which is a decrease of over 38 percent. Removing all disaster relief gifts from the first quarters of 2008 and 2009, the change is from 668 to 416, a decrease of almost 38 percent.

Announced gifts of a million dollars or more tend to be concentrated in higher education. From descriptions provided in the press about the purpose of a gift and the name of the recipient organization, the gifts announced in the fourth quarter may be categorized as follows in Table 1. This is an approximation based on the best information available.

**Table 1****Allocation of gifts of \$1 million and above as a percentage of the number of gifts and of the dollar amount of the gifts, first quarter 2009**

Type of recipient	Number of gifts	Percent of total number	Dollar amount	Percent of total dollars
Higher education	164	39	996,897,003	36
Other education (K-12, libraries, tutoring, etc.)	32	8	117,804,800	4
Health	39	9	380,891,011	14
Arts, culture, humanities	36	9	129,475,000	5
Overseas recipient	22	5	197,399,766	7
International affairs, development, relief	13	3	228,630,031	8
Human services	28	7	138,370,000	5
Public-society benefit (federated campaigns, human rights, civil liberties and civil rights, scientific & social science research, community foundations)	58	14	522,542,438	19
Government agency (other than school)	5	1	8,557,000	<1
Environment (zoos, animals, climate)	16	4	42,549,622	2
Foundations	0	0	0	0
Religion	3	1	6,850,500	<1
Recipients in more than one subsector or organization name(s) not specified	0	0	0	0
<b>Total*</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>2,769,967,171</b>	<b>*</b>

\* percentages may not equal 100 due to rounding.

More information about these gifts and about the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University can be found at <http://www.philanthropy.iupui.edu>.

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“Increasing the understanding of philanthropy, improving its practice,  
and enhancing participation in philanthropy.”