



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

The Center on Philanthropy compiled a list of **396 gifts of \$1 million or more in the fourth quarter of 2009** that were announced in various newsletters, newspapers, and other publications. This is more than the number of gifts reported in the third quarter of 2009. There were no gifts for disaster relief in the third and fourth quarter of 2009. The following summary shows the changes in donations from the previous quarter and previous year to the fourth 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 Third Quarter 2009 to the Fourth Quarter 2009**

- The number of gifts from individual donors increased from 154 to 169, or an increase of nearly 10 percent. There were no gifts from individuals to disaster relief in either quarter.
- The total number of corporate, foundation, and other institutional gifts increased from 226 to 227, or less than 1 percent. There were no gifts from institutions to disaster relief in either quarter. Of the 227 gifts in the fourth quarter of 2009, there were 12 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 49 to 45, or by more than 8 percent. There were no gifts from corporations to disaster relief in either quarter.
- The number of foundation gifts rose from 169 to 170, or nearly 1 percent. There were no foundation gifts for disaster relief in the third or fourth quarter of 2009.
- The number of gifts from all donors combined rose from 380 to 396, an increase of over 4 percent. Excluding gifts for disaster relief from both quarters does not affect the percent change because there were no gifts for disaster relief in either quarter.

## Changes from Fourth Quarter 2008 to Fourth Quarter 2009

- The number of gifts from individual donors increased from 163 to 169, an increase of less than 4 percent. There were no gifts for disaster relief in the fourth quarter of 2009 or the fourth quarter of 2008.
- The number of corporate, foundation, and other institutional gifts decreased from 410 to 227, a change of 45 percent. There was one institutional gift for disaster relief in the fourth quarter of 2008, but none in the fourth quarter of 2009. With these disaster relief gifts excluded, the change is from 409 to 227, a decrease of more than 44 percent. Of the 227 gifts in the fourth quarter of 2009, there were 12 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 45, or 41 percent. There were no corporate gifts to disaster relief in either quarter.
- The number of foundation grants fell from 323 to 170, or more than 47 percent. There was one foundation gift for disaster relief in the fourth quarter of 2008, while there were no disaster gifts from foundations in the fourth quarter of 2009. Excluding these gifts, the change is from 322 to 170, or a decrease of more than 47 percent.
- The total number of gifts from individuals, foundations, corporations, and other donors fell from 573 to 396, which is a decrease of nearly 31 percent. Removing all disaster relief gifts from the fourth quarters of 2008 and 2009, the change is from 572 to 396, a decrease of about 31 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, fourth quarter 2009**

Type of recipient	Number of gifts	Percent of total number	Dollar amount	Percent of total dollars
Higher education	189	47.7	1,153,378,407	24.2
Other education (K-12, libraries, tutoring, etc.)	28	7.1	436,826,632	9.2
Health	38	9.6	212,859,228	4.5
Arts, culture, humanities	24	6.1	165,200,000	3.5
Overseas recipient	17	4.3	517,809,657	10.9
International affairs, development, relief	12	3.0	48,890,418	1.0
Human services	19	4.8	36,125,000	0.8
Public-society benefit (federated campaigns, human rights, civil liberties and civil rights, scientific & social science research, community foundations)	28	7.1	106,211,100	2.2
Government agency (other than school)	10	2.5	26,770,000	0.6
Environment (zoos, animals, climate)	10	2.5	24,800,000	0.5
Foundations	18	4.5	2,028,500,000	42.5
Religion	2	0.5	2,160,000	<1
Recipients in more than one subsector or organization name(s) not specified	1	0.3	10,400,000	0.2
<b>Total*</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>*</b>	<b>4,769,930,442</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>.

The Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University  
550 West North Street, #301  
Indianapolis, IN 46202  
(317) 274-4200

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