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Our Top Charities

Donate to high-impact, cost-effective charities—backed by evidence and analysis

Updated annually — Last update: November 2020

Give Effectively

Give to cost-effective, evidence-backed charities

We search for charities that **save or improve lives the most per dollar**. These are the best we've found. Supported by 20,000+ hours of research annually.⁽¹⁾

Donate based on evidence—not marketing

Even well-meaning charities can fail to have impact. We provide evidence-backed analysis of effectiveness.

Pick a charity or give to our Maximum Impact Fund

We grant from our [Maximum Impact Fund](#) to the charities where we believe donations will help the most. Either way, **we take zero fees**.

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CHARITY 1 OF 9

Medicine to prevent malaria



Photo credit: Malaria Consortium/Sophie Garcia

OVERVIEW

Malaria **kills over 400,000 people annually**, mostly children under 5 in sub-Saharan Africa.⁽²⁾ Seasonal malaria chemoprevention is preventive medicine that saves children's lives. It is given during the four months of the year when malaria infection rates are especially high.

COST-EFFECTIVENESS

About **\$7** to protect a child from malaria.⁽³⁾ **We estimate that \$3,000 - \$5,000 will save a life.**⁽⁴⁾

Compare to most charities' programs

EVIDENCE OF IMPACT

Exceptionally strong. Many high-quality studies of seasonal malaria chemoprevention have consistently found strong impact. The organization we recommend conducts high-quality ongoing monitoring.

Compare to most charities' programs

TOP ORGANIZATION IN THIS AREA



Malaria Consortium

SEASONAL MALARIA CHEMOPREVENTION PROGRAM

[FULL REPORT](#)

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CHARITY 2 OF 9

Nets to prevent malaria



Photo credit: Against Malaria Foundation

OVERVIEW

Malaria **kills over 400,000 people annually**, mostly children under 5 in sub-Saharan Africa.⁽⁵⁾ Nets save lives. Participants hang the nets and sleep under them so they are not bitten by malaria-carrying mosquitoes.

COST-EFFECTIVENESS

About \$5 to provide one net.⁽⁶⁾ We estimate that \$3,000 - \$5,000 will save a life.⁽⁷⁾

Compare to most charities' programs

EVIDENCE OF IMPACT

Exceptionally strong. Many high-quality studies of nets have consistently found strong impact. The organization we recommend conducts high-quality ongoing monitoring.

Compare to most charities' programs

TOP ORGANIZATION IN THIS AREA



Against Malaria Foundation

FULL REPORT

DONATE

CHARITY 3 OF 9

Supplements to prevent vitamin A deficiency



Photo credit: Helen Keller International

OVERVIEW

Vitamin A deficiency leaves children vulnerable to infections and can lead to death.

We attribute **over 200,000 children's deaths** to vitamin A deficiency each year.⁽⁸⁾ This

program saves lives by providing vitamin A supplements to children under 5 years old.

COST-EFFECTIVENESS

About \$1 to deliver a vitamin A supplement.⁽⁹⁾ We estimate that \$3,000-\$5,000 will save the life of a child under 5.⁽¹⁰⁾

Compare to most charities' programs

EVIDENCE OF IMPACT

Very strong. Many high-quality studies of vitamin A supplementation show strong impact. The organization we recommend conducts high-quality ongoing monitoring. Compare to most charities' programs

TOP ORGANIZATION IN THIS AREA



Helen Keller International
VITAMIN A SUPPLEMENTATION PROGRAM

[FULL REPORT](#) [DONATE](#)

CHARITY 4 OF 9

Cash incentives for routine childhood vaccines



Poster at a clinic promoting awareness of the New Incentives program and the benefits of vaccination. Photo credit to New Incentives

OVERVIEW

In Nigeria, **43% of infants did not receive all recommended childhood vaccines** in 2019.⁽¹¹⁾ This program provides cash transfers to incentivize caregivers to bring babies to clinics for routine childhood vaccinations. It operates in North West Nigeria.

COST-EFFECTIVENESS

About **\$47** to provide an incentive to a caregiver to complete a baby's immunization schedule.⁽¹²⁾ **We estimate that \$3,000-\$5,000 will save a life.**⁽¹³⁾

Compare to most charities' programs

EVIDENCE OF IMPACT

Very strong. A high-quality study of New Incentives' program found strong impact. New Incentives conducts high-quality ongoing monitoring.. Compare to most charities' programs

TOP ORGANIZATIONS IN THIS AREA



New Incentives

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CHARITIES 5-8 OF 9

Treatments for parasitic worm infections (deworming)



Photo credit: Evidence Action

OVERVIEW

Hundreds of millions of people around the world are infected with parasitic worms.⁽¹⁴⁾ This program provides children with medication that clears parasitic infections and may lead to a large increase in lifetime earnings. We recommend the program based on its small potential for a large impact on earnings.

COST-EFFECTIVENESS

Donating **\$100** will deworm about **100** children,⁽¹⁵⁾ leading to a cumulative **\$1,100** in additional earnings over the course of the children's lives.⁽¹⁶⁾ This program is implemented in areas where people on average live on \$700 per year.⁽¹⁷⁾ This is **significantly more cost-effective than cash transfers**.

Compare to most charities' programs

EVIDENCE OF IMPACT

Strong. Many high-quality studies show that treating children clears worm infections. One trial and several follow-up studies show a large increase in participants' lifetime earnings. The organizations we recommend conduct high-quality ongoing monitoring.

Compare to most charities' programs

TOP ORGANIZATIONS IN THIS AREA

 <p>Evidence Action Deworm the World Initiative</p>	<p>Evidence Action DEWORM THE WORLD INITIATIVE</p> <p>FULL REPORT DONATE</p>
 <p>SCI Foundation</p>	<p>SCI Foundation</p> <p>FULL REPORT DONATE</p>
 <p>THE END FUND ENDING NEGLECTED DISEASES</p>	<p>The END Fund DEWORMING PROGRAM</p> <p>FULL REPORT DONATE</p>
 <p>Sightsavers</p>	<p>Sightsavers DEWORMING PROGRAM</p>



DEWORMING PROGRAM

FULL REPORT

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CHARITY 9 OF 9

Cash transfers for extreme poverty



Photo credit: GiveDirectly

OVERVIEW

The majority of people in the world **live on less than \$3,700 per year.**⁽¹⁸⁾ This program gives cash to very poor families, mostly in Africa, to spend as they like. Many participants make investments in business and agricultural assets, housing, and education.

COST-EFFECTIVENESS

Program participants receive **\$83** out of every **\$100** donated.⁽¹⁹⁾

Compare to most charities' programs

EVIDENCE OF IMPACT

Exceptionally strong. Many high-quality studies show that recipients use money to buy goods that improve their lives. The organization we recommend conducts high-quality ongoing monitoring.

Compare to most charities' programs

TOP ORGANIZATION IN THIS AREA

GiveDirectly

GiveDirectly

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Photo credit: Malaria Consortium/Sophie Garcia



GiveWell's Maximum Impact Fund

This is the best fit for donors who want to maximize their impact. We take **zero fees** and use our most up-to-date research to grant your gift where we believe it will help the most.

We typically grant this pool of funds to one or more of our recommended charities each quarter. Once we grant your donation, we'll email you to let you know which charity or charities we selected and what we expect your donation will accomplish.

Donate to the Maximum Impact Fund

GiveWell takes no fees and grants your donation where we believe it will help the most.

GIVE ONCE		GIVE MONTHLY	
\$50	\$100	\$150	OTHER AMOUNT

One-time donation of \$50 USD

DONATE

 All donations are secure.

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