

## Ten Charitable Resolutions for the Philanthropically Inclined

1. I will give without being asked.
2. I will draw upon the key people, experiences, and influences in my life when deciding where to give.
3. I will study the best methods for making donations. For example, I might make charitable gifts outright, as opposed to deferred, from assets rather than from income.
4. I will seek no influence from my giving. I may want to restrict some gifts for specific purposes, but I will place no other conditions on my giving.
5. I will make charitable giving an integral part of my estate planning. I will consult my estate planner and tax advisor for assistance.
6. I will make "challenge gifts" so as to involve others in worthwhile funding campaigns.
7. I will evaluate the business of a cause before I support it. I will look beyond emotional appeal to the financial efficiency of a charitable organization.
8. I will emphatically oppose unprofessional appeals.
9. I will encourage others to give to worthy causes. I will teach my children and urge my friends to select causes and support them in return for their relationships and for the good of the communities in which we live.
10. I will consider my financial responsibility to the health, education, and welfare of my family as I design my charitable giving. I cannot support all causes. My first cause is my family. I will learn to graciously say, "No, thank you," when I must.