

From November 8 2014 [Tampa Bay Times](#)

THE 50 WORST, RANKED BY MONEY BLOWN ON SOLICITING COSTS

Totals from the latest 10 years of available federal tax filings

Rank	Charity name	Total raised by solicitors	Paid to solicitors	% spent on direct cash aid
1	Kids Wish Network	\$127.8 million	\$109.8 million	2.5%
2	Cancer Fund of America	\$98.0 million	\$80.4 million	0.9%
3	Children's Wish Foundation International	\$96.8 million	\$63.6 million	10.8%
4	American Breast Cancer Foundation	\$80.8 million	\$59.8 million	5.3%
5	Firefighters Charitable Foundation	\$63.8 million	\$54.7 million	8.4%
6	Breast Cancer Relief Foundation	\$63.9 million	\$44.8 million	2.2%
7	International Union of Police Associations, AFL-CIO	\$57.2 million	\$41.4 million	0.5%
8	National Veterans Service Fund	\$70.2 million	\$36.9 million	7.8%
9	American Association of State Troopers	\$45.0 million	\$36.0 million	8.6%
10	Children's Cancer Fund of America	\$37.5 million	\$29.2 million	5.3%
11	Children's Cancer Recovery Foundation	\$34.7 million	\$27.6 million	0.6%
12	Youth Development Fund	\$29.7 million	\$24.5 million	0.8%
13	Committee For Missing Children	\$26.9 million	\$23.8 million	0.8%
14	Association for Firefighters and Paramedics	\$23.2 million	\$20.8 million	3.1%
15	Project Cure (Bradenton, FL)	\$51.5 million	\$20.4 million	0.0%
16	National Caregiving Foundation	\$22.3 million	\$18.1 million	3.5%
17	Operation Lookout National Center for Missing Youth	\$19.6 million	\$16.1 million	0.0%
18	United States Deputy Sheriffs' Association	\$23.1 million	\$15.9 million	0.6%
19	Vietnow National Headquarters	\$18.1 million	\$15.9 million	2.9%
20	Police Protective Fund	\$34.9 million	\$14.8 million	0.8%
21	National Cancer Coalition	\$41.5 million	\$14.0 million	1.1%

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22	<u>Woman To Woman Breast Cancer Foundation</u>	\$14.5 million	\$13.7 million	0.4%
23	<u>American Foundation For Disabled Children</u>	\$16.4 million	\$13.4 million	0.8%
24	<u>The Veterans Fund</u>	\$15.7 million	\$12.9 million	2.3%
25	<u>Heart Support of America</u>	\$33.0 million	\$11.0 million	3.4%
26	<u>Veterans Assistance Foundation</u>	\$12.2 million	\$11.0 million	10.5%
27	<u>Children's Charity Fund</u>	\$14.3 million	\$10.5 million	2.3%
28	<u>Wishing Well Foundation USA</u>	\$12.4 million	\$9.8 million	4.6%
29	<u>Defeat Diabetes Foundation</u>	\$13.8 million	\$8.3 million	0.1%
30	<u>Disabled Police Officers of America Inc.</u>	\$10.3 million	\$8.1 million	2.5%
31	<u>National Police Defense Foundation</u>	\$9.9 million	\$7.8 million	5.8%
32	<u>American Association of the Deaf & Blind</u>	\$10.3 million	\$7.8 million	0.1%
33	<u>Reserve Police Officers Association</u>	\$8.7 million	\$7.7 million	1.1%
34	<u>Optimal Medical Foundation</u>	\$7.9 million	\$7.6 million	1.0%
35	<u>Disabled Police and Sheriffs Foundation</u>	\$9.0 million	\$7.6 million	1.0%
36	<u>Disabled Police Officers Counseling Center</u>	\$8.2 million	\$6.9 million	0.1%
37	<u>Children's Leukemia Research Association</u>	\$9.8 million	\$6.8 million	11.1%
38	<u>United Breast Cancer Foundation</u>	\$11.6 million	\$6.6 million	6.3%
39	<u>Shiloh International Ministries</u>	\$8.0 million	\$6.2 million	1.3%
40	<u>Circle of Friends For American Veterans</u>	\$7.8 million	\$5.7 million	6.5%
41	<u>Find the Children</u>	\$7.6 million	\$5.0 million	5.7%
42	<u>Survivors and Victims Empowered</u>	\$7.7 million	\$4.8 million	0.0%
43	<u>Firefighters Assistance Fund</u>	\$5.6 million	\$4.6 million	3.2%
44	<u>Caring for Our Children Foundation</u>	\$4.7 million	\$4.1 million	1.6%

Rank	Charity name	Total raised by solicitors	Paid to solicitors	% spent on direct cash aid
45	<u>National Narcotic Officers Associations Coalition</u>	\$4.8 million	\$4.0 million	0.0%
46	<u>American Foundation for Children With AIDS</u>	\$5.2 million	\$3.0 million	0.0%
47	<u>Our American Veterans</u>	\$2.6 million	\$2.3 million	2.3%
48	<u>Roger Wyburn-Mason & Jack M Blount Foundation For Eradication of Rheumatoid Disease</u>	\$8.4 million	\$1.8 million	0.0%
49	<u>Firefighters Burn Fund</u>	\$2.0 million	\$1.7 million	1.5%
50	<u>Hope Cancer Fund</u>	\$1.9 million	\$1.6 million	0.5%

\$970.6 MILLION PAID TO SOLICITORS

Worst 50's record

- \$970.6 million cash paid to solicitors
- \$380.3 million cash to the charities
- \$49.1 million to direct cash aid

Watchdog groups say no more than 35 percent of donations should go to fundraising costs. There is no standard for how much should be spent on direct cash aid.

RESOURCES FOR CHECKING NONPROFITS

[A list of solicitors](#) used by the worst 50

[A list of the worst 50](#), with addresses

[State charity officials](#), with contacts for all 50 states

[Florida's gift givers' guide](#) for consumers

[ProPublica's](#) Nonprofit Explorer

[Guidestar's](#) research website

[GiveWell](#) does in-depth research into a small number of worthy charities

[Charity Navigator's](#) charity evaluation website

[CharityWatch's](#) charity rating service

[The Better Business Bureau's](#) Wise Giving website

DOWNLOAD DATA

PDF: [A printable list of the 50 worst](#)

CSV: [Fundraising data for the 50 worst](#)

CSV: [The solicitors they use](#)

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America's Worst Charities is the result of a yearlong collaboration between the [Tampa Bay Times](#) and the California-based [Center for Investigative Reporting](#), the nation's largest and longest serving nonprofit newsroom dedicated to watchdog journalism. [CNN](#) joined the partnership in March 2013.