Balancing short-term need with a long-term vision

In 2020, Vanguard Charitable donors responded emphatically to calls for racial justice, COVID-19 support, and natural disaster relief. Alongside this rapid response, we saw the acceleration of long-term growth in giving to cause areas across the philanthropic sector.

This phenomenon—in which donors address critical needs today while remaining in position to respond to whatever comes next—is made possible by the structure of donor-advised funds. Our donors have invested in sustained, long-term support that the philanthropic community can count on for many years to come.

2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021
--- | --- | --- | ---
120K grants | 141K grants (+18%) | 192K grants (+37%) | 106K grants*
1.0B | 1.3B (+30%) | 1.7B (+25%) | $1.2B
38K organizations | 43K organizations (+12%) | 50K organizations (+17%) | 35K organizations
California Wildfires, Hurricane Florence, Hurricane Michael, Indonesia Earthquake | Hurricane Dorian, California Wildfires, Cyclone Idai, Midwest Floods | See below for details | Hurricane Ida, Afghanistan Crisis, Haiti Earthquake, Western Wildfires

*Data only includes grants specifically designated for COVID-19 relief, but the grant total inspired by the pandemic is almost certainly much higher.

2021 data is through September 30.