How to Choose A Charity
5 Tips Everybody Should Know
1. Define your Values.

Before you can look for a charity, you need to know what causes you believe in. What change do you seek in the world? What do you care about most? Is there a discriminated group of people or animals that you feel particularly drawn toward helping? Take some time for self-reflection by writing in a journal or talking with your friends about what they value.
Look for Transparency.

Okay, you’ve decided which kind of charity you want to give to and you’ve found a handful of ones you like. Now what? One thing you need to look for in any nonprofit is accountability and honesty. If this organization is responsible and ethical, they’ll be an open book about their finances and challenges that they face.
Look for Clarity.

This nonprofit seems pretty honest, and you’re starting to trust them. But do you know what change they really seek to effect in the world? A trustworthy nonprofit will have a clear mission, vision, and road map for the future. If you can’t figure out what an organization does in 30 seconds of being on their website, RED FLAG! If you don’t know their plan, do they know their plan?
Look for Impact.

Talk is one thing, actions are much more. Look for the results. Every nonprofit has its own unique set of challenges, so success can look different. Try to have a conversation with the organization about the impact their seeking and what they’re doing to solve the challenges before them. A nonprofit that knows what it’s doing will have measurable goals and accomplishments even if it’s only been around for a year.
Okay, now you’ve donated before you even reached step five! We don’t blame you; the organization that has passed the test so far must be pretty good. You did your research and you’re making an impact that’s really meaningful to you! Don’t let it end there. Follow up with the organization after six months to a year to see how they’re using your money. You don’t need a itemized list; simply ask for a progress report. If they are doing their job right, they’ll get back to you shortly and you can feel confident that you made the right choice.