

Some religious charities buck lower giving trends

by [Adelle M. Banks](#) in the [November 16, 2010](#) issue

Several of the nation's largest religious charities reported increases in private support as nonprofits overall saw decreases in donations last year, the *Chronicle of Philanthropy* reported.

Feed the Children, which ranked fifth in the annual Philanthropy 400 donor profiles, had a 1.2 percent increase in private support, which totaled \$1.19 billion. World Vision saw a 4.5 percent increase in its private support, which totaled \$870 million, giving it the no. 9 rank on the list.

Catholic Charities USA was ranked third, with a 5.2 percent increase from the previous year. According to the *Chronicle*, Catholic Charities' private support totaled \$1.28 billion.

Overall, donations to the country's largest charities dropped by 11 percent last year.

The Salvation Army, which ranked second, saw a decrease of 8.4 percent in its private support, which totaled \$1.7 billion. Food for the Poor, which ranked sixth, had a 27.6 percent drop in private donations, which totaled \$1.07 billion.

Other religious organizations in the top 25 included:

- Habitat for Humanity International, 3.8 percent decrease
- Operation Blessing International, 16.4 percent increase
- Campus Crusade for Christ, 2.3 percent decrease

The publication bases its rankings on charities' reports of cash and other gifts received from private sources. —RNS