



## Convenience stores donate nearly \$1 billion to charities

**More than 97% of convenience stores in the United States said that they have contributed to charities. The recent survey released by the National Association of Convenience Stores (NACS) revealed that 154,195 convenience stores contribute or collect approximately \$990 million a year to benefit charities.**

The beneficiaries of c-store contributions vary from local charities such as church groups, shelters, health-related organizations, local schools, sport and non-sport groups to specific emergency or relief operations.

Retailers, however, emphasize the importance of contributing to local causes.

"This makes our customers and associates feel good because everyone knows the money is going to a great local cause that helps people in our immediate area," said Landhope Farms' Director of Operations Dennis McCartney. Landhope donates a portion of sales from its food program during certain months to support a local charity.

Jay Ricker of Ricker's, which supports both local and national charities, advised companies to choose initiatives which fit them best.

A total of 115 member companies, representing a cumulative 1,728 stores, participated in the September 2016 survey of convenience retailers.