



Convenience store charitable giving tops \$1bn in the U.S.

Convenience stores contribute or collect more than \$1 billion to charities annually, according to a national survey of retailers released today by the National Association of Convenience Stores (NACS).

Overall, 95% of convenience stores support charitable causes, with 66% of these stores supporting five or more charitable causes. Nearly all companies support local charities (91%) such as church groups, shelters, food banks and other non-sports groups. And approximately half of all retailers (47%) also support national charities.

In addition, convenience stores also contribute to local charities during specific times of need. Four in five convenience store companies (75%) say they've made donations when there was a specific emergency or crisis in the community.

The median charitable contribution per store is \$3,925 in direct contributions and \$3,054 in donations collected. Cumulatively, the nearly 155,000 convenience stores in the United States contribute or collect \$1.03 billion a year to benefit charitable groups.

"We often say in our industry that 'c-store' doesn't just stand for convenience store; it stands for community store and these results clearly demonstrate the commitment our industry has to the communities they serve," said Jeff Lenard, NACS vice president of strategic industry initiatives.

More than three in four (76%) retailers also say they make local product/food donations to food banks and other groups to support those in need; of this group, 67% donate food and 76% donate beverages.