

Start the year off right by donating to non-profits and charities that make a difference in people's lives every day. Whether you want to donate your time as a volunteer or contribute financially, local organizations rely on generosity to continue their work. For this edition of NYC Lifestyle, we compiled a list of organizations making a difference in our backyard.

New York Cares Coat Drive

The New York Cares Coat Drive has provided the warmth of a winter coat to New Yorkers for over 32 years. Interested in donating a coat in good condition? Check out the coat dropoff map to find a center near you. You can also make a monetary donation here.

City Harvest

Food rescue organization, City Harvest, feeds more than 1.5 million New Yorkers each year. Excess food from farms, restaurants, grocers and manufacturers is collected and distributed to food pantries, soup kitchens and community centers. A full roster of volunteer and donation opportunities is available here.

Community Access

Since 1974, Community Access has been assisting those experiencing mental health concerns gain access to affordable housing, health and wellness care and other avenues of support. Discover the many ways to give here, and become an advocate for change.

The Ali Forney Center

The Ali Forney Center is the largest non-profit providing shelter and healthcare services for LGBTQ+ youth experiencing homelessness in New York City. The organization is dedicated to empowering LGBTQ+ young people and fostering a supportive environment. Look into the many ways to get involved here.



The Loveland Foundation

The Loveland Foundation is dedicated to improving mental healthcare access in communities of color. Founded by Rachel Cargle, the national foundation offers Black women and girls financial assistance for therapy sessions. Click here to learn more about the Loveland Foundation and donation opportunities.

Habitat For Humanity

Habitat for Humanity constructs new housing and repairs existing homes across the five boroughs. Opportunities to get involved range from hands-on construction work to corporate matching. ReStore, the organization's furniture and home improvement retail outlet in Woodside, Queens, also accepts gently used household items and furniture.

Best Friends Animal Society

Best Friends Animal Society in SoHo helps homeless dogs and cats find both permanent and temporary housing. To find opportunities to volunteer your time or to donate, click here. Fostering and adoption opportunities are also available through in-person and virtual appointments.

Bottomless Closet

Bottomless Closet is a local organization that assists and empowers women entering the workforce. The non-profit supplies women with professional attire from the Bottomless Closet boutique and also offers resume and interview preparation courses. Visit their website for clothing donation and volunteer opportunities including wardrobe consultation and professional coaching.

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