

Double your gift - Wednesday

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Wednesday is Dallas Giving Day.

On that day, online donations made using a credit card will be matched dollar for dollar through the DonorBridge Web site at www.donorbridgetx.org.

There are around 1,300 nonprofits to choose from in Dallas, Tarrant and Collin counties.

At least \$200,000 is available for the match Wednesday, plus any matching funds left over from Tuesday's drive, which was limited to donor-advised funds.

You can make a donation and choose your beneficiary starting at the stroke of midnight tonight.

The minimum gift is \$25, and the maximum contribution per individual (not household) is \$2,500.

Total match dollars cannot exceed \$25,000 per agency, so donors are encouraged to make their donations early in the day.

All online credit card gifts made through DonorBridge will be processed through the Communities Foundation of Texas.

Donors can recommend grants to any agency registered as a nonprofit with the Internal Revenue Service. To encourage everyone to use DonorBridge as a giving tool, checks or credit card information will not be accepted over the phone.

In the upper right corner of the DonorBridge home page, you will see "Find a Nonprofit" and "Find a Program" buttons that will search for a nonprofit by name or key words.

To make a credit card contribution to an agency:

*Use the search box on the upper right or the left side of the home page to find the agency.

*In the search results, click on the agency's name.

*Once the profile loads, click the "donate now" button on the left side.

*Complete the online form.

The Communities Foundation of Texas will send you an e-mail confirming your donation because it's handling the donations. The foundation will take out a 5 percent fee for processing, but you will be credited with the whole amount for contributions on your income tax.

Communities Foundation of Texas created DonorBridge with software company Blackbaud in partnership with the Center for Nonprofit Management in Dallas and in collaboration with the Institute for Urban Policy Research at the University of Texas at Dallas. Support was also provided by the Dallas Foundation.

The site offers free, reliable data in a user-friendly format so that donors can research agencies they're interested in. Each agency profile offers information about management, governance and the effectiveness of its programs.

Business seminar

A Greater Dallas Asian American Chamber of Commerce seminar Thursday will focus on "How to Start a Business and How to Do Business with Public Agencies and Corporations." It lasts from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the MetroBank Plano Branch Community Center at 3911 W. Park Blvd. in Plano.

Reservations are required. Call 972-241-8250. MetroBank Plano is the sponsor.

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