

Barclays' Exchange-Traded Funds Grow a Charitable Heart

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Barclays Global Investors has released a new program to bring charitable investments to a line of its exchange-traded funds. The donor advised funds, which launched on Monday, allow investors the opportunity to bequest funds to any charity of their choosing and invest directly into ETFs. Barclays Global has partnered with the National Philanthropic Trust (NPT) to create the new donor advised funds. The iShares Charitable Giving Program currently includes more than 25 exchange-traded funds and offers donors with contributions of more than \$5 million to invest in any iShares ETF, according to Financial Advisor Magazine. Donor-advised funds aren't just a boon for charities; investors score an immediate tax-deduction for their donations, as well as the ability to recommend grants to their favorite charities and not-for-profit entities. Donor-advised funds are the fastest growing charitable giving investment vehicles, containing more than \$27.7 billion in assets and servicing more than 122,500 donors.