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National Philanthropic Trust Adds Impact-Investing Portfolios for Donors

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National Philanthropic Trust, one of the nation's largest donor-advised-fund sponsors, will begin offering new socially responsible investment portfolios for its clients.

Before making grants to nonprofits, DAF holders will be able to invest their philanthropic contributions in portfolios that support four causes: economic opportunity for underserved communities, environmental stewardship, the advancement of women in the workplace and beyond, and a broad social-impact portfolio that supports conservation, financial inclusion, and health-care access.

The portfolios contain traditional environmental, social, and governance funds that both screen out companies with less favorable practices and select those with favorable practices. The new portfolios offer liquidity and returns similar to traditional investments.

The fund sponsor, which currently manages \$8.1 billion in charitable assets, began offering impact investments in 2015. Since then, the market and donors' interest in impact investing have grown substantially. And donor-advised funds are gaining in popularity as an impact-investing tool.

National Philanthropic Trust worked with CapShift, a firm that helps DAF sponsors and donors with impact investing, to build these portfolios based on donor interest and feedback. The new portfolios replace the trust's existing impact options.

Eden Stiffman reports on nonprofit trends and fundraising for the Chronicle.