The Boston Globe

Philanthropy New Year's Resolutions: Bolder Giving for 2012 with These Four

A leading nonprofit wants to bring out the hidden philanthropist in everyone and offers four easy New Year's Resolutions anyone can follow to increase their social impact. According to Bolder Giving's CEO, Jason Franklin, "Bolder Giving's mission is to inspire and support people to give at their full lifetime potential and these resolutions give people an easy (and fun) way to support organizations and communities they care about."

The Bolder Giving 2012 New Year's Resolutions are:

Resolution One

Risk More With Your Giving:
For 2012 step away from the "safe" charities, the big legacy names, and seek out newer and smaller nonprofits that are breaking new ground on an issue you care about. Do your research, find their headquarters, and send your check.

Resolution Two

Give More Compared to 2011: When you calculate your total 2011 giving for the IRS, resolve to give more in 2012. Almost anyone can increase their giving by 1% more of Bolder Giving's mission is to inspire and support people to give at their full lifetime potential and these resolutions give people an easy (and fun) way to support organizations and communities they care about.

their income, another \$500 or \$1000, or double their 2011 donations. Set your new goal and

give more to the issues and communities you care about.

Resolution Three

Plan Your Giving for 2012: Philanthropy is more rewarding and effective when you make it a monthly activity rather than a last minute tax save or random donation. Start by selecting three or four nonprofits, set a monthly amount for donations (\$10 or \$10,000), and send a check to a different group on the same day each month. With this increased awareness you'll spot other organizations to receive your new donations monthly during 2012 and planned monthly amounts are more manageable so you can give more.

Resolution Four

Inspire More in 2012:

Make the monthly giving a family activity or something you do with a group of friends. Picking a cause-of-the-month is a great reason to get together for coffee or a meal and an inspiring way to support important causes or communities needing your support. Include someone new each month and get inspired by their generosity and stories. ■