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EPIC CAPITAL

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IMPACT

Impact Investment Assets Now Stand at \$502 Billion

BY ABBY SCHULTZ, BARRONS APRIL 1ST, 2019



The impact investing market has grown exponentially since the term was coined in 2007 to describe investments that lead to social and/or environmental benefits as well as a financial return.

But exactly how big the largely private market has become hasn't been known. On Monday, **the Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN)** came out with an estimate, saying impact investing assets under management at 1,340 organizations worldwide totaled US\$502 billion at the end of last year.

“Half a trillion dollars in impact investing assets is a sizable amount,” says Sapna Shah, director of strategy at the **GIIN**. “Obviously there’s a lot more work to do to address the global challenges that we have. But what’s exciting is the opportunity [the market’s size] represents to grow impact investing and impact investment. It builds a case for why we need more of this.”

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Getting an accurate and reliable figure for the market's size allows investors and asset managers to better compare impact investing to similar markets, to better understand how much capital is available to meet society's needs, and "it provides some frame of reference for where the market can go," Shah says.

"The results show more than 50% of impact investing assets worldwide are held by some 860 asset managers in venture capital, private equity, fixed-income, real assets, and in public stocks."

"It's hard to move into a space that has no definition whatsoever," she says. "Having a figure is something that can actually drive investment."

The broad market for sustainable investing practices, which includes investing in public companies with best practices against environmental, social, and governance (ESG) metrics, was pegged at about US\$12 trillion in 2018, according to the **The Forum for Sustainable and Responsible Investment**. To date, the only sense of the impact investing market's size was the GIIN's annual investor survey,

That survey, released last May, roughly pegged the market at around US\$228 billion in 2017, based on self-reported responses from 229 investors. By contrast, the GIIN's latest research seeks to provide "a rigorous and widespread approach to capturing a true market size figure," Shah says.

The results show more than 50% of impact investing assets worldwide are held by some 860 asset managers in venture capital, private equity, fixed-income, real assets (like timber and real estate), and in public stocks. Another 27% are held by 31 development financial institutions—banks that are often at least partially owned by the government and provide funds for economic development. Foundations hold 2% of assets, while 24 family offices hold about US\$1.8 billion, less than 1%.

More than half of all assets are managed within the United States and Canada, with about 21% in Europe.

While the direct investments of high-net worth individuals outside of family offices or foundations weren't included in this study, many wealthy individuals and families invest for impact through institutions that manage various impact investing vehicles, such as venture capital and private equity funds.

Though the GIIN identified 1,340 organizations as impact investors, it received information from more than 750, and assembled the data on assets under management from various sources. The assets included were self-reported by the investors, and in some cases included categories, like green bonds—fixed-income securities raising debt financing for specific environmentally oriented projects—and in some cases did not. Also, development finance institutions have varying definitions of impact investing.

"Practically, this means that some activity may be underreported in our database—such as that of green bonds or renewable energy—where investors are being truly intentional about solving a social or environmental problem, but perhaps do not self-identify the allocation as 'impact investing,'" the report said. "At the same time, some allocations may also be over-reported, such as some investors counting ESG investing or development finance as 'impact investing'."

The self-reporting approach is taken, in part, because the GIIN doesn't specify impact investments by end objective or by sector, Shah says.

"Our view is the best way to define the market is through practice and action," she says. "There are plenty of needs in the world to go around and we don't want to bound that, necessarily. Rather we want to say: If you are

going to make an impact investment, what is in the investor's control to take action on so that investment is best positioned to achieve the impact objective.

Lack of US Climate Policy Putting Companies at Risk; Investors Demand Action

Published by Sustainable Brands December 12, 2018



As a record number of global investors calls on governments to accelerate action on climate change, a new **CDP** analysis shows that some of the largest U.S.-based corporations view climate change as an increasing risk to their bottom line and reputation among consumers and investors.

The new *State by state: An analysis of U.S. companies and cities across seven states* report, released today, highlights business readiness for a low-carbon transition and reveals major climate-related risks, but also opportunities facing their operations. The analysis is a follow-up to the 'U.S. State by State 2014' report surveying similar companies — including **Google, McDonald's, United Airlines, John Deere, Goodyear, eBay** and **Sears**. The research demonstrates best practice, how companies are successfully managing risks and building resiliency, and unique paths for companies and investors to take part in the transformational change; and reveals a growing awareness of climate-related policies, as well as an understanding for the various drivers of increased risk perception and value creation.

As the U.S. economy faces significant perils from unabated climate change, more companies are reporting environmental risks, financial implications of these extreme weather events and how they go about seizing new opportunities. *State by State* presents findings from the past four years about U.S. corporate reactions to the impacts of climate change upon business in four U.S. regions, with emphasis on Texas, Florida, Arizona, Colorado, California, Ohio, and Illinois.

- **88 percent of U.S. real estate companies** cited operational risks related to hurricanes, flooding, storm surges, sea level rise, which could translate into higher costs to businesses;
- 2017 Atlantic hurricane season ranks as one of the costliest disaster years for the insurance industry — \$215bn, including a record uninsured loss roughly amounting to \$120bn; insurance companies **Allstate** and **American International Group** are managing risk by adjusting pricing and terminating coverage in areas prone to natural disasters;
- California companies reported in 2017 more opportunities from environmental regulation than companies headquartered in any other state, **81 percent of Californian companies disclosing inherent benefits to their business from climate-related regulation;**
- In 2017, over half of Californian companies pointed to corporate reputation and changing consumer behaviors as drivers of business opportunities, with 69 percent reporting either or both drivers in their responses to CDP; **Google** parent company **Alphabet** recognized reputational benefits in the form of potential brand equity gains amounting to at least \$133 million from addressing climate change risks;
- In 2017, companies in the Southwest operating within the Colorado River Basin have reported more than **70 serious water risks to their operations** and more than 70 percent of these risks were linked to expectations of higher operating costs and plant disruption. One of the world’s largest defense contractors, **Raytheon**, reported that 11-20 percent of its global revenue could be affected by water risk;
- Climate presents a risk to the **ice cream industry**, which contributes more than \$39bn to the national economy. **Unilever**’s dairy facility in the Western seaboard — producing brands such as **Breyers, Ben & Jerrys, Klondike, and Good Humor** — could likely see disruptions in production if water levels continue to drop in **Lake Mead;**
- Ohio-based companies have consistently reported **fuel and energy regulation as a top risk** since 2015. With over five million customers across 11 states, including Texas, **West Virginia, Virginia, Louisiana and Kentucky, American Electric Power** is one example of a company grappling with uncertainty around the regulatory direction of the U.S.

Due to the increasing concern about climate risk, U.S. companies are stepping up on climate change at a pace never before seen. Driven by wind and solar sector growth, U.S. investments in U.S. renewable energy exceeded \$40 billion in 2017 and cumulative U.S. private investment in renewable energy could reach \$1 trillion in the near future.

"A climate of policy uncertainty in the U.S. is a distraction for companies and cities that see the problem of climate change and want to be focused on handling these costly and material risks," said **Sara Law**, VP of Global Initiatives at CDP. "The good news is CDP's data shows that these real economy participants have remained committed to action, bracing for impact despite distractions."

Meanwhile, as protesters disrupt the Trump administration’s tone-deaf attempt to promote fossil fuels at the **COP 24** climate conference, currently taking place in Poland, a record number of investors have joined the companies, cities and states calling upon the government to take bold climate action. Earlier this week, 415 global investors, with \$32 trillion in assets under management, are behind the call to action as signatories of the 2018 **Global Investor Statement to Governments on Climate Change**.

The Statement — the single largest policy intervention from investors on climate change to date — asks governments to strengthen their Nationally Determined Contributions to meet the goals of the **Paris Agreement** and to enact policies to facilitate the world’s transition to a low-carbon economy.

Three overarching priorities are highlighted in the Statement for global leaders to address:

- achieving the Paris Agreement’s goals;
- accelerating private sector investment into the low-carbon transition, and
- committing to improve climate-related financial reporting.

Additional detail is provided in an accompanying briefing paper also shared with leaders. Among specific policies, the investors request governments “phase out thermal coal power,” “put a meaningful price on carbon” and “phase out fossil fuel subsidies.”

Investors highlight the “ambition gap” the UN has determined exists between governments’ commitments and what is needed to deliver on the goals of the Paris Agreement — to limit global warming to well below 2°C — and ensuring the necessary transition to a low-carbon economy. They stress their “great concern” about the gap, noting consequences of an otherwise “unacceptably high temperature increase” and “substantial negative economic impacts.”

Without greater action, **Schroders** — a signatory to the Statement — projects long-run temperature rises of around 4°C, with \$23 trillion of associated global economic losses over the next 80 years. This is permanent economic damage three or four times the scale of the impacts of the 2008 Global Financial Crisis, while continuing to escalate.

Investors signing the Statement include some of the world’s largest pension funds, asset managers and insurance companies, alongside faith-based groups, state treasurers and comptrollers, impact investors and venture capital funds. The signatories assert: “The global shift to clean energy is underway, but much more needs to be done by governments to accelerate the low carbon transition and to improve the resilience of our economy, society and the financial system to climate risks.”

The intervention comes as findings of a recent UN report show that nations must triple their efforts to meet their commitments under the Paris Agreement. Only weeks earlier, the **IPCC’s 1.5°C Special Report** showed that considerable additional emission reductions are achievable, delivering significant benefit to society and the climate.

A strong agreement by governments at COP24 is important in setting rules for how the Paris Agreement will be implemented. It also provides an opportunity for governments to signal how they will jointly step up efforts to



cut emissions, reducing associated impacts and the costs of climate change. The process for governments to increase ambition of their climate commitments is built into the design of the Paris Agreement, with investors calling on governments to start the process this year.

The Global Investor Statement is one of the actions of **The Investor Agenda**, launched at the **Global Climate Action Summit** in September, which calls on investors to step up action on climate change. It provides a way for investors to directly report actions they are taking on climate change, and scale up their commitment to act, across four key focus areas: **Investment, Corporate Engagement, Investor Disclosure and Policy Advocacy**; the ‘Global Investor Statement’ falls under the latter.

Regarding the investors’ call for the phase out of coal power worldwide, this includes welcoming growing support for the global **Powering Past Coal Alliance**. Launched in 2017 by the UK and Canada, the Alliance now has 28 national government signatories, alongside other sub-national and corporate supporters, including nine US states.

New York State Comptroller **Thomas P. DiNapoli** of the **New York State Common Retirement Fund**, responsible for a \$207 billion pension fund, explains: “Despite the misguided policies of the Trump Administration, global efforts to address the very real threat climate risk presents to the economy, financial markets and investment returns are ongoing. At New York State Common Retirement Fund, we are still in and remain committed to supporting the Paris Agreement’s climate goals. The transition to a low-carbon economy presents numerous opportunities to create value, and investors who ignore the changing world do so at their own peril.”

DiNapoli’s recent announcement of an additional \$3 billion commitment to the pension fund’s Sustainable Investment Program raised the program’s value to more than \$10 billion.

Peter Damgaard Jensen, Chair of the **Institutional Investors Group on Climate Change** and CEO of **PKA**, a Danish pension fund with \$41 billion in assets, adds: “There is no place for coal in the clean energy future that is essential to addressing climate change. It’s therefore encouraging to see ever more countries set necessary dates for the phase out of coal. Investors, including PKA, are moving out of coal in their droves, given its devastating effects on the climate and public health, compounded by its poor financial performance.”

An Incentive for Companies that Deliver on Sustainability: Lower-Cost Capital

Published by Liz Enochs of Impact Alpha on April 24, 2019



*A \$3.5 billion line of credit this year for industrial real estate giant **Prologis** had a novel feature: the interest rate drops each year as long as the company achieves specific sustainability benchmarks.*

Last year, United Kingdom residential developer **London & Quadrant** closed a £100 million (\$132 million) loan that included an interest rate discount if the company met a target of helping 600 unemployed residents find work each year.

And **Olam**, the Singapore-based food giant, last year closed a \$500 million revolving credit facility with 15 major banks that lowers its interest payments if it hits sustainability targets.

Such “sustainability-linked loans” represent a way to “pay” companies, with lower-cost capital, for boosting resource efficiency, mitigating climate risks or improving relations with local communities. The new financial products are based on the proposition that sustainability improvements can reduce costs and risks enough to deliver an acceptable return to lenders even at a lower interest rate.

“If you look at companies, they’re increasingly making public commitments on their sustainability performance and financing is a logical follow on,” said Anne van Riel, who heads sustainable finance in the Americas for the

Dutch bank **ING**. “Sustainability-linked loans are an engagement product, whereby banks engage with their clients on what the main risks are and how they go about mitigating those.”

Globally, sustainability-linked loans totaled more than \$36 billion last year, according to Bloomberg NEF, including an \$800 million revolving loan to water technology company **Xylem**, a \$181 million loan to **Mitsui Chemicals** and a \$1.19 billion facility for **Pearson** tied to education goals.

Last month, three financial-market trade associations released a set of global principles for sustainability-linked loans. Many loans require a third-party analytics or ratings agency to measure the borrowing company’s performance against pre-set benchmarks for increased renewable energy generation, reduced greenhouse gas emissions, or fewer workplace accidents; or by calculating the company’s sustainability score.

Impact delta

Prologis’ European banks were keen to close what may be the first green revolving credit facility for a U.S. real-estate investment trust, said Tim Arndt, senior vice president and treasurer at Prologis.

Arndt says, “As we got comfortable, we felt it was another place we could be a trailblazer and lead by example.”

Prologis’s lenders will measure the borrower’s sustainability performance each year and adjust the interest rate up or down based on how many green facilities it builds each year. For other companies, pre-set goals can be as broad as an improved sustainability score or as narrow as reducing carbon emissions by a set amount.

Arndt would not specify the amount of the discount, but said it was less than 10 basis points, or one-tenth of a percentage point. A \$428 million sustainability-linked loan earlier this month from Singapore-based **Frasers Property Ltd.** featured a 5 basis point rate reduction for meeting ESG benchmarks.

The terms of most sustainability-linked loans don’t restrict the use of proceeds, meaning the funds can be used for any corporate purposes. One of the first loans of this type was a \$1.1 billion (€1 billion) revolving credit facility for health technology company Philips led by ING, according to van Riel. The 2017 deal, syndicated through 16 banks, rewards Philips for improving its ESG rating, as measured each year by research and ratings company **Sustainalytics**.

Since then, more than 50 of these types of loans have been closed, most in Europe. “If you look at the number of deals done here in the U.S., it’s really counted on one hand,” says van Reil.

The new standards may help expand the market. “We just want to do our part in helping break this market open,” said Prologis’ Arndt. “We think this is the next important wave in all this green financing.”

These 9 Technological Innovations Will Shape the Sustainability Agenda in 2019

This article was written by Matt Rogers on behalf of McKinsey & Co, January 7th, 2019



With a new year, we're taking a fresh look at where sustainability is headed globally. What technologies will drive the global discussions, and moreover, which will have the greatest impact in 2019? I asked McKinsey's leading sustainability experts for their thoughts.

1. Public electric transport. It's not only individual vehicle owners who have better access to electric vehicles (EVs) than ever before—there are 160 electric and hybrid vehicle models available today—but municipalities are taking notice as well. In China, 300,000 electric buses hum down city streets every day. Their widespread adoption in China—an economic coup as much as a policy one—will entice European cities to follow suit. Although these eBuses have higher acquisition prices due to upfront battery costs, their total cost of ownership (TCO) is lower due to their independence from pricey diesel. They also eliminate local particulates, including SO_x, NO_x, and CO₂, all major issues in most cities today.

2. Electric trucks. With personal electric vehicles grabbing more and more market share, commercial fleets could follow suit rapidly. But to ensure an efficient transition, we need a firm understanding of the total cost of ownership. Decades ago, widespread adoption of electric trucks—or “eTrucks”—was cost prohibitive. But today, the total cost of ownership could soon be on par with diesel-run trucks, due in part to increasingly cost competitive and available electric vehicle infrastructure. We predict that adoption of battery electric commercial vehicles (BECVs), especially in the light- and medium-duty segments, could surpass the car EV sales mix in some markets by 2030. And although many heavy-duty BECVs will need to charge mid-route, our analysis shows that a charging station every 80 to 100 kilometers on popular routes will suffice for early phases of adoption.

3. Cheap energy storage. The new age of electric vehicles has rapidly expanded the market for lithium and cobalt batteries—and drastically reduced their price. Lithium ion batteries now cost \$200 per kilowatt-hour compared to \$1,000 per kilowatt-hour just nine years ago. The expanded market for batteries has implications for more than just EVs. Industry and utilities are finding broader use for them as energy-storage solutions. With prices for batteries rapidly dropping, they are proving valuable to reduce power costs, increase reliability and resiliency, and make power systems more flexible to operate. But the wide accessibility of cheap energy storage also means

utilities will need to change quickly. One way will be to move away from a variable rate structure to a fixed fee for access to the grid (like cable TV), especially as consumers begin to generate their own energy. Another will be to revise grid-planning approaches by increasing circuit-by-circuit nodal planning.

4. Long-term storage. Lithium-ion batteries are great for addressing short-term storage needs (4-5 hours) that arise frequently (20-200 times per year), but the market also wants solutions that address long-term storage needs brought on by seasonal shifts and multi-day periods when the sun does not shine and the wind does not blow. Historically, hydropower dams were one of the only approaches to manage these seasonal shifts. Otherwise, the system would need to build a whole series of plants that only run for a few days each year. Fortunately, a new series of innovators believe they are close to developing long-duration storage technologies. Google X just spun off Malta, which is storing renewable energy in molten salt. Antora Energy is trying to solve the same problem by building a low-cost thermal battery for grid-scale energy storage. And BP-backed Lightsource is adding storage to solar developments. What's clear is that if long-term energy storage works, the price of power will decline significantly. These long-term solutions could eliminate the cost incurred through the underutilization of assets during and save money by inserting lower-cost generators such as solar and wind in the power supply.

5. Plastic recycling. 260 million tons of plastic waste is generated across the globe every year, but only 16 percent gets recycled. The plastics industry has the opportunity to move away from a "take, make, and dispose" business model and adopt a circular model, which aims to eliminate waste across sectors while creating economic, societal, and environmental benefits. One promising circular process is pyrolysis, which uses heat and the absence of oxygen to reconvert plastic waste back into liquid feedstock. The benefits are economic as much as environmental, with a recycling-based profit pool estimated at \$55 billion by the next decade.

6. LED light efficiency. Energy-efficient LED lighting is quickly replacing traditional incandescent bulbs in American homes and is expected to achieve 84 percent market share by 2030. In 2030 alone, LED lights will reduce energy consumption by 40 percent, which adds up to \$26 billion in savings adjusted to today's energy prices. These are dramatic cost savings, but according to the Department of Energy, the U.S. can still see an additional 20 percent in energy savings with increased investment in LED lights.

7. Accessible solar power. Renewable energy continues to become cheaper and more accessible into 2019, a trend that has major implications for the nearly 1 billion people across the globe without access to electricity. While expanding the grid is part of the access solution, countries in sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean, which account for a majority of the world's unelectrified population, are exploring renewable solutions like solar energy to bring energy quickly and inexpensively to millions. Innovative financing plans can help make previously unaffordable solar home systems (SHSs) a smart solution for communities that are too far from a reliable grid connection. A recent McKinsey assessment determined that SHSs can help power 150 million households by 2020.

8. Carbon capture and storage. Instead of just focusing on completely decarbonizing the major industrial commodities behind plastics and cement, we can also consider safely capturing the carbon emitted when these commodities are produced. Carbon capture and storage (CCS) allows industry to capture carbon at its source, compress it, and move it to a suitable permanent storage site. The technology not only has the potential to significantly reduce greenhouse-gas emissions—it can also mean more money if the CO₂ can be used profitably to make other products. Several industries are already working to put captured carbon dioxide to profitable use, including manufacturers who use captured carbon to make plastics, such as polyurethane. Emerging technologies, including direct air capture, have previously been too cost prohibitive to implement at scale. But a new Stanford University study predicts that direct air capture, which grabs carbon dioxide from the air and converts it into synthetic fuel, could eventually drop from \$600 per ton of carbon dioxide to less than \$100.

9. Hydrogen in the energy transition. It's difficult to imagine how we meet ambitious global warming benchmarks without including hydrogen as a critical part of the solution. Hydrogen-led pathways to cleaning up the environment forecast hydrogen powering more than 400 million cars, 15 to 20 million buses, and more than 20 percent of passenger ships and locomotives by 2050. Although battery-powered electric vehicles exhibit overall higher fuel efficiency, hydrogen-powered fuel cells can store more energy with less weight. This makes them an ideal solution for heavy cargo vehicles that must travel long distances. Hydrogen-powered fuel cell vehicles are already on the road in Japan, South Korea, California, and Germany—and more than 10 models are slated for release by 2020. In short, hydrogen fuel could help the world meet its goal of decreasing carbon dioxide emissions by 60 percent. Although the necessary technology exists today, the costs for producing hydrogen need to decline significantly, and the infrastructure that supports it needs a step up. Hydrogen could facilitate smarter use of other renewables by acting as a long-term transport and storage solution for renewable electricity. It could be a key enabler in the energy transition.

2018 proved to be an active year in Corporate Social Responsibility with issues related to sustainability, globalization, advocacy on social issues and multiple natural disasters in the forefront. Some of these issues and trends will continue into 2019, but leaders should expect to see the following noteworthy changes:

Impact in the News



- California Lawmakers to phase out single-use non-recyclable plastics

California lawmakers have introduced legislation to phase out single-use non-recyclable plastic food containers and packaging by 2030. Since becoming the first state to restrict plastic straws, the Golden State has also banned the use of single-use plastic bags at grocery stores.

- Israel's Rewire raises \$12 million for digital banking for migrants

Fintech and blockchain companies have targeted the high cost of international money transfers. But average fees for sending money across borders is still more than twice the 3% targeted by the Sustainable Development Goals. Rewire offers free online bank accounts to migrants through South Africa-based Standard Bank, along with its own money transfer service, which charges 60% less than other banks and has tens of thousands of accounts.

- Kellogg Foundation invests in healthy restaurant chain EveryTable

The chain of 6 fast-casual restaurants in Los Angeles area uses variable pricing to make healthy food more affordable in low-income neighborhoods. The Kellogg Foundation is backing EveryTable with \$1.5 million program-related investment and plan to help open 2 more stores in 2019 as well as create a franchise model for entrepreneurs of color.

- Community Impact Partnership will seed small businesses in the U.K.

Four Housing associations – Clarion Housing Group, L&Q, Orbit, and Peabody – are creating a three-year loan fund (seeded with \$3.8M) the Community impact Partnership to provide unsecured loans and grants to small and medium-sized businesses that provide cleaning, catering, landscaping, and other services in residential areas.

E3 = Epic Time, Talent & Treasure

Epic Capital is a mission-driven firm with a genuine heart for community, both locally and around the world. We focus specifically on social outreach initiatives. We give our time, talent and treasure to organizations that support families in need, the working poor, homeless or impoverished. This is meaningful to us because we recognize the incredible blessings in our lives and the opportunities that we have been given to do work that we love. So we have taken our personal passion for empowering others and made it a part of our corporate charter. We call it **E3**.

- We give **our time** through our quarterly *Epic Outreach* program, serving where the greatest needs are through local charities.
- We give **our talent** through our *Epic-EDU* program, in addition to our partnership with [CommonWealth Charlotte](#), administering financial workshops for organizations and churches that minister to low income families, the working poor and the previously incarcerated.
- And we give **our treasure** through our *Epic Impact Grant* program to local community and global organizations that meet our social outreach criteria.

We believe that we are all called to serve. We also believe that the positive impact one can make by empowering the life of another can alter the direction of that life forever.

We are pleased to announce that we have opened up our quarterly Epic Outreach initiatives to include volunteer participation from clients of Epic Capital. Please consider joining us during one of our upcoming volunteer efforts.



Men's Shelter of Charlotte – Q1 2019

The sun was out, our workload was light, and it was a FRIDAY! To top it all off we had the distinct honor of serving over 100 men a hearty meal. It doesn't get much better than that.

That was our experience this past Friday when several of us from Epic Capital served lunch at the [Men's Shelter of Charlotte](#) off of N. Tryon Street. It was good to be back having served there before, because each time we go we see a host of new faces, meet new volunteers and staff and always make a few new friends. We also leave with the clear understanding that the men we serve matter. They deserve the attention, the time, and the kinship that our engagement with them provides.

It is also obvious that they are grateful for our being there. If they don't provide an all-out verbal "*Thank you.*", you can see the gratitude in their eyes or in a subtle smile and a nod. We can't even begin to imagine a day in the life of one of these men – the trials and tribulations of being homeless, but for a brief moment that split-second interaction is a meaningful connection. For them, and for us.

If you've never served there before, we would truly encourage you to do so. Yes it's humbling, it's a brief look into a world that so many of us pray never falls upon us. But your being there lets these men know that we care, that they truly are worth our time, and that they are worthy of so much more than where they are at that moment in time.

The Men's Shelter of Charlotte operates two shelters, comprised of 405 beds. They provide the basic needs of shelter, meals, showers, laundry services, hygiene items, and access to a supportive staff. For more information or to schedule a volunteer effort visit their website at <https://www.mensshelterofcharlotte.org/>



If you would like to consider other volunteer opportunities, or to learn more about over 400 local non-profits in the Charlotte region, please visit a community partner of ours who we hold in very high regard: **Share Charlotte** <https://sharecharlotte.org/>

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