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Donor-Advised Fund Assets Return to Pre-Recession Levels

Donor-advised funds last year exceeded their rate of growth in 2007, for the first time since the recession, according to a report released last week by the National Philanthropic Trust. Contributions to donor-advised funds – which allow contributors to get an immediate tax deduction and later disperse their money to charities – increased by more than 10%, to \$9.6 billion in 2012. Assets held by the funds grew to \$37.3 billion, up from the previous high of \$30.2 billion in 2007. Meanwhile, the funds increased donations to charities by more than 13%, to \$7.7 billion last year.