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Southern Poverty Law Center ♥ SAVE

CharityWatch rating issued
May 2025 ⓘ

F

CharityWatch Rating ⓘ

This rating has been downgraded from B due to the charity having 6.0 years worth of [available assets in reserve](#).

69%



Program Percentage ⓘ

Amount spent on programs relative to overhead.

\$22



Cost to Raise \$100 ⓘ

Amount spent to raise \$100 of contributions.

Large Asset Reserves ⓘ

CharityWatch reduces the grade of any charity that has available assets equal to three to five years of operating expenses. Charities with "[years of available assets](#)" of more than five years receive an "F" grade regardless of other measurements. In CharityWatch's view, a reserve of less than three years is reasonable and does not affect a charity's grade. These reductions in grades are based solely on the charities' asset reserves as compared to budget. The CharityWatch definition of "years of available assets" includes funds currently available for the charity's use, including investments that the charity has set aside as a reserve but could choose to spend if it wanted to do so. **Southern Poverty Law Center's** letter grade rating has been downgraded because it has 3 or more years of available assets.

See [Our Process](#) to learn more about how CharityWatch considers a charity's asset reserves and the [High Asset List](#) for a list of charities whose ratings have been reduced due to high assets.

Contact Information ⓘ

Southern Poverty Law Center

P.O. Box 548

Montgomery, AL 36104

Other Names ⓘ

SPLC

Tax Status ⓘ

501(c)3

Website

www.splcenter.org

Stated Mission ⓘ

A catalyst for racial justice in the South and beyond, working in partnership with communities to dismantle white supremacy, strengthen intersectional movements, and advance the human rights of all people.

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Ratings

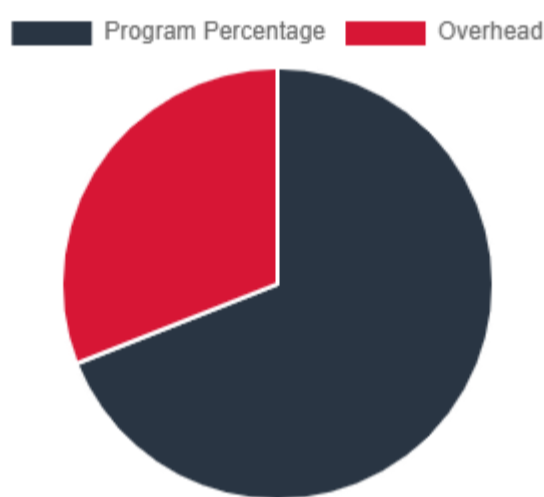
& Ratings & Metrics

Metrics

[Learn more about Ratings & Metrics](#)

Data based on **Fiscal Year Ended 10/31/2024** ⓘ

Program Percentage: **69%** ⓘ



The percentage of Southern Poverty Law Center's cash budget it spends on programs relative to overhead (fundraising, management, and general expenses).

\$127,000,000

Calculated Total Expenses

(rounded)

Cost to Raise \$100: **\$22** ⓘ



How many dollars Southern Poverty Law Center spends on fundraising to raise each \$100 of contributions.

\$106,000,000

Calculated Total Contributions
(rounded)

Ratings
&
Metrics

Joint Costs **i**

▼ **Southern Poverty Law Center's** rating was adjusted for Joint Costs. If you are a donor who considers direct mail, telemarketing, and other Joint Cost solicitations to be true charitable programs, the below efficiency ratios, which were not adjusted for joint costs, may better reflect your goals.

Program %	Cost to Raise \$100
73%	\$17

Accounting rules allow charities to report some telemarketing, direct mail, and other solicitation costs as Program expenses. CharityWatch believes that most donors do not consider a charity's solicitation activities to be the Programs they are intending to support with their donations. We therefore adjust such expenses out of a charity's reported Program expense and add it to Fundraising expense prior to calculating its rating.

Government Funding **i**

0% to 24%

Percentage of cash revenue
coming from government sources

Financial Documents **i**

Entity: Southern Poverty Law Center
Document Type: Consolidated Audited Financial Statements
Tax ID: Multiple

Entity: Southern Poverty Law Center
Document Type: IRS Form 990
Tax ID: 63-0598743

Governance & Transparency

[Learn more about Governance & Transparency](#)

CharityWatch evaluates certain criteria related to a charity's Governance and Transparency. Donors may want to consider a charity's willingness to be open and transparent with CharityWatch to be a good litmus test for determining its commitment to public accountability.



Southern Poverty Law Center
meets **governance** benchmarks. ⓘ



Southern Poverty Law Center
meets **transparency** benchmarks. ⓘ

Ratings
&
Metrics
▼

Transparency ⓘ

Provides Financial Information ✓

Audit Accessibility ✓

Governance: Policies ⓘ

Reports regularly & consistently monitoring & enforcing compliance with a written Conflict of Interest Policy ✓

Reports required, annual disclosure by officers, directors, and key staff of interests that could give rise to conflicts ✓

Reports having a written Whistleblower Policy ✓

Reports having a written Document Retention and Destruction Policy ✓

Governance: Financials ⓘ

Reports providing copy of tax form to all board members prior to filing it with IRS ✓

Reports that financial statements were audited by an independent accountant ✓

Governance: Board of Directors ⓘ

Reports at least 5 voting board members ✓

51% or more of voting board members reported as independent ✓

Reports documenting minutes of board and board committee meetings ✓

Privacy Policy ⓘ

Privacy Policy

Opt-Out Policy ✓

Top Salaries

[Learn more about Top Salaries](#)

1

Name: Margaret Huang
Title: President / CEO
Compensation: \$522,740

Ratings

& **Name:** Derwyn Bunton
Met **Title:** Chief Legal Officer
▼ **Compensation:** \$302,078

3

Name: Ann Beeson
Title: Chief Program Officer
Compensation: \$296,710

Analysts' Notes

[Learn more about Analysts' Notes](#)

CharityWatch Analysts perform an in-depth analysis of charities' audited financial statements and IRS tax filings, and often review other documents such as state filings, annual reports, and fundraising contracts during their evaluations. Below are select notes that CharityWatch believes may be of interest to donors.

CharityWatch's rating of Southern Poverty Law Center (the Center) is for the 501(c)(3) public charity entity (tax ID #63-0598743). The rating does not include the financial activities of the related 501(c)(4) tax-exempt, social welfare organization, SPLC Action Fund (tax ID #83-1085161).

According to the Southern Poverty Law Center tax filing for the fiscal year ended October 31, 2024, the Center made a "Gift, grant, or capital contribution" in the amount of \$3,375,000 to SPLC Action Fund in fiscal 2024 (IRS Form 990, Schedule R, Part V). SPLC Action Fund's contributions from unrelated sources in fiscal 2024 totaled \$1,300,150, according to its fiscal 2024 tax filing. Given its relatively small size, CharityWatch does not provide a separate rating for SPLC Action Fund at this time.

CharityWatch separates the ratings for 501(c)(3) & 501(c)(4) organizations, even when their financial activities are included together in a consolidated audit, due to their differing treatments under the IRS tax code. For more information on this topic, please see our sections on Types of Non-Profits, Tax Status, and Treatment of Related Organizations, which can be found on the [Our Process](#) page.

For more information about things to consider when donating to organizations that have related public charity and social welfare entities, read "[Sorting Out Nonprofit Pairs](#)."

According to the Southern Poverty Law Center (the Center) consolidated audit of October 31, 2024 (Note 10, Contributions of Non-Financial Assets):

The Center received contributions of non-financial assets (donated services and goods) during the fiscal year ended October 31, 2024, on which it placed a total value of \$420,299.

[Note: CharityWatch generally excludes the value of in-kind (non-cash) donations of goods and services from its calculations of Program % and Cost to Raise \$100. More information on how grades are calculated and the treatment of in-kind donations can be found on the [Our Process](#) page.]

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📅 Apr 24, 2026

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