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**Charity Navigator Research**

Using Charitynavigator.org, go to your host country and choose ten 4-star organizations.

STEP 1: Write all ten below. Find and list their Overall Numerical Rating (out of 100). This is a quick and easy way to see how one reputable organization ranks each organization’s overall effectiveness. Drop the lowest score.

1. Make-A-Wish International- 67.09

2. Susan G. Komen for the Cure- 66.20

3. AMG International- 66.18

4. Young Life- 65.46

5. World Vision- 64.60

6. Pajama Program- 62.49

7. American Red Cross- 62.24

8. The National Centre for Padre Pio- 53.32 (3-star)

9. American-Italian Cancer Foundation- 53.19 (3-star)

10. Sons of Italy Foundation- 40.05 (2-star)

STEP 2: Write all nine below. Find and list all nine’s Program Expenses (percentage). This tells you how much of their money goes towards their programs. The higher the percentage, the better use of money, the better the organization. Drop the lowest score.

1. Make-A-Wish International-83.8 %

2. Susan G. Komen for the Cure- 80.5 %

3. AMG International – 86.0 %

4. Young Life- 87.8 %

5. World Vision- 88.3 %

6. Pajama Program- 95.3 %

7. American Red Cross- 92.1 %

8. The National Centre for Padre Pio- 86.5 %

9. American-Italian Cancer Foundation- 95.3 %

STEP 3: Write all eight below. Find and list all eight’s Working Capital Ratio. This tells you how long the organization can sustain itself (in years) at its current growth rate. Obviously, we want an organization that looks to be able to sustain itself for years to come. Again, drop the lowest score.

1. Make-A-Wish International-.65

2. AMG International – 1.29

3. Young Life-1.10

4. World Vision- .10

5. Pajama Program- .10

6. American Red Cross- .39

7. The National Centre for Padre Pio-5.02

8. American-Italian Cancer Foundation- 1.51

STEP 4: Write all seven below. Find and list all seven’s Fundraising Efficiency. This shows how easily the organization is able to raise money for their cause. Obviously, we would want an organization that can raise money easily. It means that many other people care about the organization and that the organization has some creative capabilities. The number, usually a decimal point, represents the amount of money it takes to raise one dollar. The lower the number (0.00 is the best), the better the organization’s fundraising capabilities. Drop the highest one.

1. Make-A-Wish International-.06

2. AMG International – .07

3. Young Life- .02

4. Pajama Program- .01

5. American Red Cross-.11

6. The National Centre for Padre Pio- .01

7. American-Italian Cancer Foundation- .02

STEP 5: Write all six below. Now it’s time to go more in depth. Find each NPO’s Mission Statement. Summarize it below. Then consult your group. Have each member list their top three choices based on each NPO’s mission only. Eliminate one NPO that garners the least interest. List each NPO’s tallies below.

1. Make-A-Wish International: This organization grants wishes to children living with serious medical conditions. They help kids all over the world- in 36 countries on 5 continents. Make-A-Wish gives children with life-threatening problems hope, joy, and strength. Over 240,000 wishes have been granted with help from many volunteers and donors.

2. AMG International : This organization stands for Advancing the Ministries of the Gospel. It is an evangelical mission and relief agency that helps people with hunger, sickness and hopelessness by showing that the answer to their problems is Jesus. The organization does mission projects, media evangelism, children’s work and relief and support.

3. Young Life: This organization focuses on bringing religion into the lives of kids of all ages. It is a Christian ministry that forms relationships with teens and impacts their lives. Young Life works in over 50 countries all over the world.

4. Pajama Program: This program helps give children who have lived through hurt an environment filled with love. The program delivers pajamas to kids living temporarily in adoption centers in major cities located in the U.S and other countries.

6. The National Centre For Padre Pio: This organization promotes life, teachings, and virtues of Padre Pio, located in Pennsylvania. The organization provides spiritual refuge to all in a cultural and spirituality center, and museum.

7. American-Italian Cancer Foundation: This Foundation focuses on supporting cancer research, early detection, and education. Combining the resources of Italy and the U.S, the foundation helps serve medically/economically disadvantaged people in New York City. It provides mobile cancer screening, research fellowships, and pancreatic cancer initiative.

STEP 6: Write all five below. Research charitynavigator.org on your own. Eliminate one NPO based on your independent research. Explain why exactly you chose to eliminate that particular NPO.

1. Make-A-Wish International

2. AMG International

3. Young Life

4. Pajama Program

5. American-Italian Cancer Foundation

Explanation: The NPO I chose to eliminate is the American- Italian Cancer Foundation. This organization only had a rating of 3 stars, compared to the other 4-star ones. It also lacked certain pieces of information on their website such as the Donor Privacy Policy, Audited Financials, and Form 990. The American-Italian Foundation also seems to be more subjective, while the other 4 organizations help a lot more people all over the world.

STEP 7: In the boxes below, write each NPO’s name and website. Visit each site, and search for their projects/programs (in other words, what exactly are they doing in your country?). List the projects/programs in each box with a very brief description. Consult your group. Together you should discuss the projects/programs. Remember, you will have to write a cause and effect essay on them. Choose the three NPOs that are doing great work *and* show clear results from their projects/programs.

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| 1.Make-A-Wish InternationalWebsite: [www.makeawish.it/italia.php](http://www.makeawish.it/italia.php)* Bases activities primarily on work of volunteers
* Fulfills desires of Italian Children living with life threatening, serious illnesses
* Wishes range from meeting someone famous, travelling, receiving a particular object, to being someone for a day
* Make-A-Wish funds these wishes and contacts people, makes travel arrangements, and plans activities in order to make the wishes come true
* They accept donations to help fund the wishes
* The foundation gives children a chance to have their dreams come true
 | 2. AMG InternationalWebsite: <http://www.amginternational.org/www/docs/10423/about-amg-missions/>* Hungry children are fed and cared for in AMG childcare centers
* People are provided with medical help in hospitals and clinics
* Provides hope through Jesus Christ
* Disaster relief ministry gives assistance to those in need
 |
| 3. Young LifeWebsite: <http://www.younglife.org/us>* Young Life leaders build relationships and friendships with kids
* They listen and care about kids and help them
* Introduces teens to Jesus Christ and helps faith grow
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STEP 8: Sign up for membership on Charity Navigator. Now you can look at the Reviews of each organization. Look up the reviews. Based on each NPO’s reviews, choose one organization to eliminate. List the final two!

1. Young Life

2. AMG International

STEP 9: Look very closely at each NPO’s web site. Think of your essay. Does one NPO give good data, provide great quotes or statistics, show clear effects of their NPO, discuss your particular country at length, etc… Compare and contrast the final two NPO’s and their web sites and then choose one.

Young Life AMG International

* Only helps adolescents Helps a broader range of people of all ages
* Higher rating on charity navigator- 4.5 rating 4.0
* Had more reviews online(263) only one review online
* Lower numerical rating out of 100 higher numerical rating than Young Life
* Higher program expenses percentage lower program expenses percentage
* Lower working capacity ratio higher working capacity ratio
* Better fundraising efficiency worse fundraising efficiency
* Helps teens become closer to God, builds helps people who have dealt with problems and Relationships, commitment to kids gives disaster relief and hope
* Helps faith grow in teens provides medical attention, helps children,

**Winner:**

Why did you choose it?

I chose to write my cause and effect essay on AMG International. Although AMG’s website did not specify on projects that were in Italy, it described many things that it had accomplished. Also, AMG seems like it is a better charity organization because it provides help to many people who really need it. It helps families, adults, and children, while Young Life is more like a program that helps adolescents only. AMG also ranked higher than many of the charities on its overall numerical rating. I also think that AMG has more effects on people then Young Life does and I think people would be more willing to donate to AMG over Young Life.