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Nonprofit Organization

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *Nonprofit Organization*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C54073.

An organization whose primary objective is to support some issue or matter of private interest or public concern for non-commercial purposes. Nonprofits generally do not operate to generate profit, and this characteristic is popularly considered to be the defining characteristic of such organizations. However, a non-profit organization may accept, hold and disburse money and other things of value. It may also legally and ethically trade at a profit. The extent to which it can generate income may be constrained, or the use of those profits may be restricted.