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By Franc is Gonzalez

It seems that as the demand for government-issued welfare flourishes, the value of

private charity in the public eye wanes. Nonetheless, we, as free market enthusiasts,

must not get discouraged; in fact, we must do the opposite. It is our duty as the world's

premier group of future leaders to stress the importance of private, voluntary solutions

to poverty . That is why this year, YAL at Mesa Community College decided to Choose

Charity.

We decided to help raise money for the Leukemia-Lymphoma Society. We persuaded

the organizations that sponsor the Phoenix "Turkey Trot," an annual 5k run, to donate

$250 to our cause. In the infamous words of the late great Robert A. Heinlein,

"TANSTAAFL" (If you don't know the phrase, look it up. I'm not in the business of giving

handouts). So, as a thanks for the donation, we volunteered to help out with the 5k.

Although there were no turkeys, there was trotting and it was on Thanksgiving, so the

name isn't completely inane. We helped set up and operated the aid station throughout

the entirety of the race. We handed out water to thirsty athletes. I know it doesn't

sound like much, but at the end of the day the Leukemia-Lymphoma Society was $250

richer because a group of free thinkers felt that it was the right thing to do.

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