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3 Free iPhone Apps to Help Make a Difference

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Megan Berry is an evangelist for [Mobclix](#), the industry's largest mobile ad exchange, working on social media and marketing. She also blogs at The Huffington Post and the [Mobclix blog](#). You can follow her on Twitter as [@meganberry](#), or through the [@Mobclix](#) handle.

If you're waiting on a bus, getting coffee, or taking a quick break from work, instead of playing your favorite game, why not use an iPhone app that can help you do some good?

These three apps allow you to get involved in everything from finding missing persons in Haiti, to providing meals for the hungry, to helping African refugees.

The best part is, these apps are all free. All you need to give is a bit of your time. So what are you waiting for?



1. [CauseWorld](#)



Similar to [Foursquare](#), this app allows you to virtually “check in” to locations around you. The key difference is that these check-ins actually accomplish something — earning you karma points you can redeem for donations to charities.

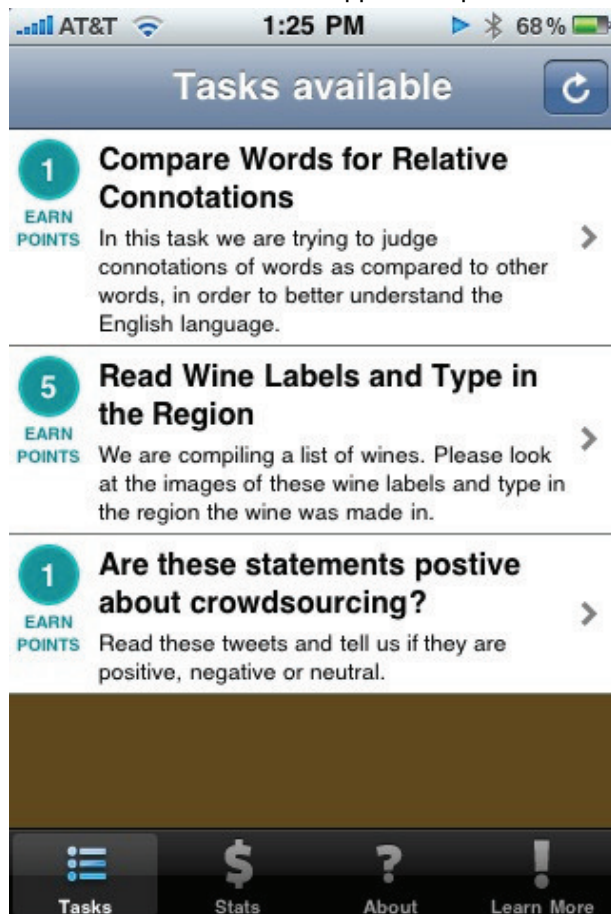
This app has been out for less than a month and already almost 400,000 pounds of carbon have been offset, 54,000 meals have been provided to needy families, 9,500 trees have been planted, and 4,200 books have been donated to kids. The app is currently sponsored by Kraft Foods and Citibank and offers 10 ways to donate your karma points. Most recently they added the ability to donate to the [Red Cross for relief in Haiti](#), and CauseWorld is doubling all of those donations.

2. [The Extraordinaries](#)



The Extraordinaries app allows you to perform micro-tasks for nonprofits and organizations you care about. Over 15,000 have been completed so far. For example, you can help find missing persons in Haiti, map kids' playspaces for [Kaboom](#), or tag images for Greenpeace. Bonus points to the Extraordinaries team for choosing a design and wording that makes me feel like a superhero. These aren't just tasks but "missions." You aren't just helping out, you're "extraordinary." And the default user image comes with a cape — sign me up!

3. [Give Work](#)



This app lives by that cliché about teaching a man to fish instead of giving him dinner. The Give Work app supports refugees in Dadaab, Kenya, the world's largest refugee site. You perform one task on your [iPhone](#), and a refugee does the same in Kenya. Then the refugee gets paid for both tasks (or the money goes towards training). It's a novel way to think about helping the poor and definitely worth a few minutes of your time.

More social good resources from Mashable:

- [How Social Media Creates Offline Social Good](#)
- [How Non-Profits and Activists Can Leverage Location Based Services](#)
- [4 Social Good Trends of 2009](#)
- [Why Social Media Is Vital to Corporate Social Responsibility](#)
- [5 Essential Tips for Promoting Your Charity Using Social Media](#)
- [20 Ways to Change the World in Only 15 Minutes a Day](#)

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