



# Gifts From Your Will

Giving a bequest must first—and always—stem from your goodwill to help our organization to continue our mission and service.



## A bequest is...

a gift from an estate, transfer of cash, securities, or other property



...made through your estate plans.

Remembering our organization with a gift from your estate will help sustain and strengthen the years to come. Some of the advantages of creating an estate charitable bequest include:

- A bequest costs nothing today, yet gives you the satisfaction of knowing you are providing for a strong organization in the future
- You retain control of and use of your assets over your lifetime
- You can modify your bequest if circumstances change
- A charitable bequest from your estate is exempt from federal estate taxes

If you have included our organization in your estate plans, please let us know. We want to thank you for your generosity, make sure we fully understand your gift's purpose, and appropriately recognize you.

## Establishing a Bequest

1-100%

A bequest to our organization can be established for a specific amount, for a percentage of your estate, or for all or a portion of what is left after you make bequests to your family.



To make a gift to our organization from your estate, you must sign a new will or living trust instrument, add a codicil to your present will, or create an amendment to your current trust instrument.



Alternatively, you can designate our organization as a beneficiary of a retirement plan or life insurance policy. You can do this by contacting the retirement plan administrator or life insurance company and complete the appropriate beneficiary designation form. You can also designate a specific purpose for such a gift with a separate notification prepared with assistance from the Planned Giving Specialist.

## Gift Purpose

When planning for a bequest, you should consider how the future gift should be used to benefit our organization, whether **unrestricted** in purpose or **restricted** to a specific department or purpose, and whether you wish for it to be an **expendable fund** or an **endowed fund**.

An **unrestricted gift** allows our organization to determine how to use the funds based on its most important needs.

Unrestricted gifts are precious because our organization can use them to meet its future needs flexibly.

A **restricted** bequest directs assets to a specific fund, department, or particular purpose. A restricted gift may be for an expendable or endowed fund. Because each restricted gift is unique, we encourage you to consider this type of gift to speak with the Planned Giving Specialist about the appropriate language.

**Expendable funds** are used in their entirety, generally within a relatively short time frame. Some more substantial expendable gifts are utilized over more extended periods.

**Endowed funds** provide income every year perpetually to carry out the designated purpose of the fund. Endowed funds have various minimums. Please speak with a Gift Planning staff member if a donor is considering a gift to establish an endowed fund.