



# Expressions of Philanthropy

**AN OVERVIEW OF  
GIVING OPTIONS**



## An overview of giving options



Mankind has always been endowed with a charitable spirit. But no society has embraced philanthropy more than our own. With each generation, Americans establish new plateaus by which the generous spirit is measured. There is an understanding that giving is both a reflection of the best parts of who we are and the key to the most important work we will accomplish as neighbors and communities.

Our belief in the value of philanthropy is much more than philosophical. It is reflected in many ways, not the least of which is our tax code.

Our tax laws not only encourage the support of charitable organizations, the tax code provides benefits that make it possible for the philanthropic spirit to be expressed through many forms of giving.



# Ways to make your charitable contribution

Each year it is the generous spirit of friends that makes our work possible. This generosity is evident in countless ways, including gifts of financial support. And while giving may seem a straightforward discussion, there are many ways that friends choose to make gifts. Some careful planning will ensure that your objectives are met. This brochure is designed to provide an overview of some of the most common ways to make a gift and the benefits of each.

## Current Gifts

The most common way to make an immediate gift is by writing a check. This type of *cash* provides immediate liquidity for charity and generates a charitable income tax deduction for the donor in the year of the gift.

Giving *stocks or bonds* may provide greater tax benefits. If you have owned securities for more than one year and the fair market value has increased since you purchased them, you can avoid capital gains tax and receive a charitable income tax deduction equal to the fair market value.

A gift of *real estate* that has been held for more than a year also has the advantage of providing you with a charitable deduction based on the current fair market value, as well as bypassing capital gains tax on the appreciation.

Selected artwork, books and antiques are examples of *gifts of personal property* that can, in certain situations, be an appropriate gift. However, to ensure that any tangible personal property qualifies for a favorable charitable tax deduction, contact our Office of Gift Planning prior to making a gift.

## Planned Gifts

Sometimes called deferred gifts, the term *planned gifts* refers to specific strategies that (in most cases) benefit charity at some point in the future while offering immediate benefits to the donor.

The gift of a paid-up life insurance policy is a good example. By designating a qualified charity as owner and beneficiary of such a policy, you will receive a charitable income tax deduction that, in most cases, is equal to your cost basis in the policy.

## Gifts That Generate Income For You

The benefits of planning compound when you utilize one of a number of strategies that generate income as well as provide a number of other benefits.

The *Gift Annuity* is a great example of how a gift generates income for the donor. This is actually a contract between a donor and a charity that is part gift and part annuity. In addition to the annuity payment, the donor receives a charitable income tax deduction and a portion of each annuity payment may be tax-free.

The *Deferred Payment Gift Annuity*, in which annuity payments are delayed for a number of years, offers rates that make it an attractive supplement to retirement income.





#### Contact information

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The *Charitable Remainder Trust* is perhaps the most versatile charitable giving tool. With the Charitable Remainder Trust it is possible to bypass capital gains tax on the sale of highly appreciated assets, generate an increase in income, receive an attractive charitable income tax deduction, and fulfill your philanthropic objectives.

The Charitable Remainder Trust is a legal trust that can be constructed to produce a predictable annuity payment each year or take advantage of investment growth opportunities with income payments based on a growing trust principal.

#### Charitable Bequests

Next to writing a check, perhaps the best known vehicle for philanthropy is the *bequest*. A bequest makes it possible for you to make your wish known today without relinquishing needed assets during your lifetime. Bequests can transfer a specific asset. You can also give a percentage of the estate after costs and taxes. Another good idea is to transfer property to a testamentary trust.

If you would like more information on the strategies discussed here or any other planning option, we invite you to contact us.

*This information is provided as an educational service. Personal advisors should always be consulted in the planning process.*

## More information



I have reviewed your brochure on *Expressions of Philanthropy* and

- I would like to speak with someone who can provide additional information.
- I would like to receive more information on other charitable tax planning options.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Please complete and return to the address on the back panel.  
All inquiries are treated in complete confidence.)*



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