

Planning Your Gift

Leaving a legacy with a Charitable Fund at the Delaware Community Foundation



You've thoughtfully determined your own charitable vision, a way to enrich your community by opening a fund at the Delaware Community Foundation. Now, you can find the best way to achieve your goal by considering how and when to make your gift. Here are a few options. We encourage you to talk with us to share your ideas and learn more.

Gifts made through your will or trust

A simple provision in your will or trust can provide for your favorite cause after your death. Flexible and revocable, a bequest allows you to make a gift that costs you nothing during your lifetime. You can give a specific amount, or a percentage of your estate. Consider a bequest to endow your lifetime giving, so that after you pass away your favorite organizations receive annual gifts in your name from a fund at the Delaware Community Foundation.

Gifts of retirement plan assets

An Individual Retirement Account (IRA) or other qualified retirement plan offers a strategic giving option. At your direction, the balance in the account can pay directly to a DCF charitable fund at your death. It goes to work, providing annual support for the causes you care about most.

Gifts of life insurance

For many people, life insurance affords a practical means of making a significant gift. You may name any charitable fund at the DCF as beneficiary of a new or paid-up life insurance policy. If you make DCF the owner of the policy as well as beneficiary, you may receive current income tax benefits.

Gifts that pay you income for life

A charitable gift annuity or a charitable remainder trust can provide you with lifetime income and establish a charitable fund in the future with remaining assets. This gift provides a current income tax charitable deduction as well as potential estate tax savings.

Gifts through a charitable lead trust

Some donors donate the income from an asset to a fund at the DCF for a period of years, without contributing the income-producing asset itself. This is done with a charitable lead trust which allows the DCF to "borrow" the asset and can provide you with substantial tax benefits.

Governor Russell W. Peterson left a legacy for all Delawareans by championing the Coastal Zone Act, a law preserving the natural beauty of the First State and its coastal resources. He later inspired the redevelopment of Wilmington's riverfront and the clean-up of the Christina River and was honored for his efforts with the naming of the 212-acre urban tidal marsh as the Russell W. Peterson Urban Wildlife Refuge.

With the dedication of the new DuPont Environmental Education Center at the edge of the refuge that bears his name, Russ and his wife, June, will be able to leave yet another legacy to Delawareans of all ages. To ensure funding for educational programs at the new center, they started the June J. and Russell W. Peterson Fund for Environmental Education at the Delaware Community Foundation.

Their goal is to raise a \$1 million endowment to share their love of nature and concern for the environment with today's youth and the generations that follow "because protecting our global environment is one of the most important things we can do."

Gifts of real estate

Real estate offers many tax-wise giving opportunities. You may be in a position to transfer your personal residence, vacation home or farm to a fund at the DCF and reserve the right to use the property for your lifetime. With this plan, you receive a current income tax charitable deduction for the remainder value of the property, which depends on your age and the property's appraised value.

Additional options for giving

Current and deferred gifts may be tailored to suit your needs using various assets including:

- *Gifts of cash*
- *Gifts of publicly traded securities*
- *Gifts of closely-held stock*
- *Gifts of tangible property*

Please consult your accountant or tax attorney regarding your financial and estate planning.

The Office of Gift Planning at the Delaware Community Foundation provides support for a full range of charitable gift planning options and services. Call us for more information about ways to create your charitable legacy. We will be happy to supply you with detailed gift examples based on your own circumstances.

Please contact Mary B. Hopkins, JD, Vice President of Gift Planning by calling 302.504.5224 or email mhopkins@delcf.org. In Southern Delaware, please contact Hugh D. Leahy Jr., Senior Vice President for Southern Delaware by calling 302.856.4393 or email hleahy@delcf.org.

For more than twenty years, the Delaware Community Foundation has been connecting people who care to the causes they care about. We manage charitable funds for individuals, families, businesses and organizations, and distribute income from the funds as grants to humanitarian, educational, health and cultural organizations throughout the First State. To learn about how we can help you connect with the causes you care about, please call **302.571.8004** or visit www.delcf.org.

