Madison COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

It's Easy to Leave a Permanent Legacy of Support

Do you want to leave a permanent legacy of support for the causes you care about and community you love? It's easy to do through planned giving. Here are answers to some of the most common questions we hear when people ask about creating their own legacy.

What is planned giving?

Planned giving is philanthropy combined with financial planning. It helps you make the most of your assets during your lifetime and allows you to make future charitable gifts that are often larger than you may have thought possible. Planned gifts use financial, estate and tax planning techniques that can lower your income and estate taxes, and reduce (or eliminate) capital gains taxes.

Why choose Madison Community Foundation (MCF) as your planed giving partner?

MCF has more than 80 years of experience helping people achieve their philanthropic goals. As the steward of more than 1,200 unique funds, we are well-positioned to assist you in developing a personal plan for giving through your estate. Together with your financial and legal advisors, we help you benefit the charitable organizations you care about and make the most advantageous financial decisions for you and your family.

"Investing some of our resources in the future of the community we love is very rewarding. Knowing that investment will continue into our children's and granchildren's generations gives us a sense of purpose and meaning."

~ Bill Lunney and Judie Pfeifer

Who decides how my gift will be used?

You do. When you create a legacy plan with MCF, you outline how your future gift will be used to benefit the organizations and causes you care about. Your gift could create or grow a named fund from which your designees can advise distributions. Or you could designate specific charities, MCF's grantmaking funds, or other funds at MCF to receive annual distributions from your fund.

How much money do I need to give?

Donors can leave gifts of any amount for existing endowments. The minimum amount to establish a new endowed fund is $15,000 for a donor advised fund or a donor designated enwoment, and $100,000 for a field of interest fund.

How long will my named fund last?

MCF endowments are carefully invested to achieve long-term growth and perpetual distributions to benefit causes now and for many generations to come.

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How do I make a planned gift to MCF?

The simplest way to make a planned gift is to list Madison Community Foundation as a beneficiary of your retirement assets or life insurance policy. You may also leave a planned gift by including specific language in your will or trust, such as:

> I/we bequeath to Madison Community Foundation (tax ID# 39-6038248), located in Madison, Wisconsin, _____ percent of my/our residual estate - OR - the sum of $_________ to be used for charitable purposes set forth in a *Statement of Intent* or *Letter of Understanding* held by Madison Community Foundation.

You don't need to let us know that you've arranged to make a planned gift to MCF, but we hope you do. We can work with you to document specific ways you would like to make a difference through your gift and how you would like to be recognized. This information may be updated at any time without needing to revise your will. We will also invite you to join MCF's Legacy Society.

What is the Legacy Society?

The Legacy Society is a special group that acknowledges and honors people who have chosen to leave a gift to MCF in their will or estate plan. Member benefits include invitations to special programs and events, acknowledgment in our annual report and other publications, and more.

You are not required to join the Legacy Society and you also can choose to remain anonymous.

How do I receive more information?

To learn more about leaving a legacy through MCF, please contact our Donor Engagement Team:

legacy@madisongives.org

608.232.1763