

TOOLS FOR GIVING

Helping local organizations sustain and grow

Designated Fund



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Establishing a Designated Fund allows you to support the good work of a specific nonprofit organization. Because it's given through your community foundation, your gift provides the organization you select not only funding, but planned giving and investment management services and the power of endowment.

How it works

- You identify an organization that you wish to benefit.
- You make a gift to your community foundation—you can give cash, appreciated stocks, real estate, or other assets.
- We set up a special fund in your name or in the name of the nonprofit organization you choose. (Permanent funds require a minimum balance of \$5,000)
- You receive tax benefits in the year your gift is made.
- Our board issues grants to the designated nonprofit organization.
- We handle all the administrative details, including managing specific qualifications that you may establish for grant disbursements.
- You receive updates on the impact the fund is making.
- As with any Foundation fund, you have the option to place your gift into our community grants endowment. Earnings from your fund are used to make grants addressing community needs. Your gift—and all future earnings from your gift—can be a permanent source of community capital, helping to do good work forever.

A source of strength and stability

Three times a week, Wendell Pittman delivers meals to homebound senior citizens as a volunteer for the Meals on Wheels program. While the organization has benefited from volunteerism and community recognition for over a decade, it depended largely on small donations and lacked a more predictable funding source. “Our organization needed more reliable funding, but we had trouble accepting large or complex gifts,” says Mary, the Meals on Wheels program director. After talking with the Meals on Wheels staff and with his financial advisor, Wendell decided to begin a Designated Fund with his local community foundation. He donated a piece of rental property that was becoming a bother in his retirement. The community foundation immediately sold the property and established the Meals on Wheels Fund. Thanks to this fund, other donors can contribute assets of a variety of types and sizes. “We’re thrilled to be working with our community foundation,” says Mary. “Meals on Wheels would not have been able to do this on its own.”

DESIGNATED FUND

Ten reasons people choose to give through community foundations

one

We are a local organization with deep roots in the community.

two

Our staff has broad expertise regarding community issues and needs.

three

We provide highly personalized service tailored to each individual's charitable and financial interests.

four

Our funds help people invest in the causes they care about most.

five

We accept a wide variety of assets, and can facilitate even the most complex forms of giving.

six

We partner with professional advisors to create highly effective approaches to charitable giving.

seven

We offer maximum tax advantage for most gifts under federal law.

eight

We multiply the impact of gift dollars by pooling them with other gifts and grants.

nine

We build endowment funds that benefit the community forever and help create personal legacies.

ten

We are a community leader, convening agencies and coordinating resources to create positive change.

More benefits

A Designated Fund provides you a wonderful way to give back to one or more specific organizations that have touched your life. Your gift provides more than just funding— your favorite organization will benefit from your community foundation's investment stewardship and ability to manage endowment funds. Because your community foundation handles the details, the nonprofit organization's staff is freed up to focus on its mission. And, the community foundation can facilitate even the most complex forms of giving, such as planned gifts or gifts of appreciated stock or real estate.

You can add to the fund at any time. If the organization you select ceases to exist or changes in mission, the fund can be redirected so that it continues to address your charitable intent.

Community foundations provide a simple, powerful, and highly personal approach to giving. We offer a variety of giving tools to help people achieve their charitable goals.

You can make a gift of cash, stocks, bonds, real estate, or other assets to your community foundation. Most charitable gifts qualify for maximum tax advantage under federal law. For more information and ideas on ways to integrate your financial planning with charitable giving, ask your financial advisor or contact your community foundation.

For more information on how the Hamilton Community Foundation can help you with your charitable giving contact Katie Braswell, vice president of development at, (513) 863-1717 or kbraswell@hamiltonfoundation.org.