

Bequest Through A Will Or Revocable Trust Or Through Beneficiary Designations



A **BEQUEST** is perhaps the easiest way to make a lasting gift to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County Endowment Foundation. Once you have provided for the needs of your loved ones, you can make a *revocable* bequest that either leaves a specific percentage of your estate to the Foundation, or a dollar amount of specific property. This provision is made by making a simple addendum to your will or revocable trust.

Below is sample language you may wish to include in your will or revocable trust:

Percentage

"I give, devise and bequeath to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County Endowment Foundation (Tax ID: 81-0456702) to support the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County, _____% of the residue of my estate."

Dollar Amount

"I give, devise and bequeath to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County Endowment Foundation (Tax ID: 81-0456702) to support the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County, the sum of \$_____."

Specific Property

"I give, devise and bequeath to the Boys and Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County Endowment Foundation (Tax ID: 81-0456702) to support the Boys & Girls Clubs of Yellowstone County, my interest in (describe the property and exact location)."

Bequest of residue (percentage or dollar amount): Perhaps the most common method of leaving charitable bequests is through residual clauses.

After providing for family, many testators will specify that all or a portion of the residue of their estate be distributed to one or more charitable organizations or institutions. As a result, loved ones are cared for first and charitable wishes follow, if this is the testator's desire.

Many people choose to leave a set percentage of the residue of their estate for specified charitable uses. This approach offers a correcting mechanism in case the estate should unexpectedly increase or decrease in value.

Bequest of property: A donor may choose to leave a particular piece of real property, whether a home, farm, or rental property, to a charitable beneficiary. It may be left outright or a life estate may be granted to surviving spouse or other relative or friend.

Great care should be taken to properly describe the intended property and the interest bequeathed if it is not the entire ownership interest.

Gift of Miner Rights: A donor can gift the mineral rights on a property to charity. In cases where the donor has leased his/her mineral interest, the royalty stream may be bequeathed to charity.

Other Opportunities: The will is the most commonly used method of making charitable gifts at death. Other opportunities exist beyond the will to make charitable gifts at death. These gift structures may be used in combination with a will or as stand-alone vehicles.

Beneficiary Designations: A beneficiary designation is a revocable and easy way to make a lasting gift to charity. Many individuals have accumulated a significant amount of wealth in their checking and saving accounts, life insurance plans and retirement accounts ranging from IRAs to employer sponsored 401(k)s, profit sharing plans and 403(b)s to name a few. While the intention in establishing these accounts is to save for retirement, many individuals end up with unconsumed balances in these accounts at the time of death. Therefore, these accounts have become an important and tax-wise way to fulfill charitable ambitions.

Register Plans: When a charity is the beneficiary designee of a retirement asset such as an IRA, 401(k) or 403(b), the charity can take a tax-free withdrawal of the account balance following the account owner's death. Since the untaxed balance in these accounts at the time of the account owner's death will never be subject to income tax when left to charity, there is often no better asset available to meet a donor's charitable desires.

Beneficiary Deed: Sometimes called a transfer-on-death deed, a Beneficiary Deed can be an effective charitable estate planning tool that allows residential or commercial real estate to pass to charity without need of probate. Montana law allows you to use a Beneficiary Deed which is recorded now but takes effect only when you die. You keep all rights of use, ownership and sale during your life. You also maintain flexibility to change beneficiaries if your charity or family needs a change by simply recording a revocation or a new beneficiary deed. A Beneficiary Deed may be revoked at any time by the owner.

We encourage you to seek the advice of personal legal and financial advisors when making your estate plans.

Once you notify us that you have established a gift in your will, we will recognize your gift in our Heritage Club.

**Should you have any question, please contact
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