


You Can Make A DIFFERENCE



community foundation


Texas Hill Country



Since 1982, area residents have been turning to the Community Foundation of the Texas Hill Country to make their philanthropic giving as effective as possible.

We are a public charity serving thousands of people who share a common concern—improving the quality of life in Bandera, Gillespie, Kendall and Kerr Counties.

Individuals, families, businesses and organizations create permanent charitable funds that help our region meet the challenges of changing times. The foundation invests and administers these funds. We then use the distributions to award grants each year to many of the humanitarian, educational and cultural organizations in this remarkable region we call home.



Charitable giving.

It's an investment in our community's future.



You've worked hard to achieve your goals and to support the causes and institutions you believe in. Charitable giving is an important part of your life. As someone who knows the value of giving, you want to be assured that your gifts will meet vital needs and improve our community.

You want to know your gifts will achieve positive results and, of course, maximize your tax deductions. You may want to involve your family in your giving. You want a tasteful level of recognition - or perhaps you want anonymity.

But most of all, you want an easy and flexible way to accomplish your objectives.

There is a simple way for you to make a difference and leave a lasting legacy in our community. You can make a difference for good, a difference forever - and that's by establishing a fund with the Community Foundation.



What Is a “Community” Foundation?

We are a community foundation, a tax-exempt public charity that enables people like you to establish charitable funds. Your fund will be commingled with our other funds and managed professionally. Its assets will grow over time. You and your family and colleagues are encouraged to continue giving to the fund to help it grow even more. Grants will be awarded from your fund to support local nonprofit organizations, in accordance with your interests.

Like all community foundations, we are overseen by a volunteer board of leading citizens and run by professionals with expertise in knowing our community’s needs. We go beyond simply making grants that advance charitable activities; we also identify current and emerging issues, stimulate resources to address those needs and help our region prepare for the future.

It’s for these reasons that community foundations represent one of the fastest growing areas of philanthropy. When charitable-minded people like you seek suitable ways to give, we can help you make a difference.



How does it work?

The community foundation idea is simple: Anyone may use it to give something back to the community.

Assets that you donate to the foundation create one of several types of funds to support your charitable goals. We offer you a full menu of planned giving options to tailor your gift.

You can create a fund in honor of someone you love or to celebrate a special event. You can direct your gift broadly or narrowly to issues you care about or to wherever the needs are greatest. However you give, your gift can change lives today and in the future.

We use professionals to invest and manage our assets. Our board is made up of local citizens who know the community and our staff can help you create the gift that makes the difference you want.

We offer you power and flexibility in charitable giving without the legal paperwork, time and expense associated with running your own private foundation. We can help you set up a fund that will maximize both your tax advantages and your impact in the community—now and forever.

Here are some ways we can help:

- Managing the fund, overseeing its investment and maintaining tax records.
- Filing tax returns and providing an independent audit.
- Providing the services of experienced grant makers who know the community, its needs and its organizations
- Ensuring grants are always awarded in the name of your fund
- Issuing regular financial reports detailing the status of the fund

How do I create a fund?

1. Decide When to Give

You can create your fund now, establish it in your will, or create it through a trust arrangement that benefits your family as well as charity. You may give in honor of an anniversary, to celebrate a special event or to support a cause. Tax deductions are earned at the time of your gift, while grants awarded from your fund will continue into the future.

2. Decide What to Give

Almost any kind of asset can be used to start your fund, such as cash, publicly traded securities, closely held stock, interests in limited partnerships, real estate, life insurance, tangible personal property and private foundation assets.

3. Choose the Name for Your Fund

Most of our funds are named for the donor or the donor's family or as a memorial to someone special. Every grant from the fund will carry this name. If you prefer anonymity, you may choose a name that reflects your fund's charitable purposes.

4. Choose a Type of Fund

We offer a variety of funds that are flexible to meet our donors' different charitable interests:

Unrestricted Funds offer the broadest giving option, allowing grants to be made to wherever our professional staff determines our community's needs are the greatest.

Field-of-Interest Funds create grants that meet needs in a particular field or geographic area that is of interest to you.

Donor-Advised Funds enable you to recommend specific organizations to receive grants.

Scholarship Funds help students pursue academic goals. You may define guidelines for candidacy, the advisory committee, the school and the award itself.

Designated Funds let you support specific organizations while we make sure that grants to these groups remain relevant over time and responsive to changing circumstances.

Organizational Endowment Funds are established by nonprofit organizations to provide income to them. We handle all administrative and investment responsibilities, freeing the organization to pursue its charitable mission.

The Investment Advisor Strategy gives donors the option to partner with the Community Foundation and still maintain a charitable portfolio with an investment manager of their choice for endowment funds valued at \$250,000 or more. This is another great way to build a charitable legacy.



Why choose us?

We Know Our Community

When you choose to invest in the future of our community, you want to work with someone who knows the territory. The Community Foundation's broad cross section of leaders has valuable insight that will help your charitable giving achieve maximum results.

We Help You Achieve Superior Tax Benefits

Since the IRS considers us a public charity, contributions are eligible for the highest available tax deductions. In most cases, these tax benefits outweigh using your own assets to establish a private foundation.

We Make Setup and Administration Easy

Establishing a fund can be done in less time than it takes to open a bank account. We take care of all the administrative and grant making activities, eliminating the need for you to set up a separate institution, formulate policies, file innumerable forms and monitor the status of grant recipients. We can save you precious time and money.

We Share Your Interests

We are here to help you become connected to the issues you care about most now and in the future. Your charitable interests and priorities are important to us because committed, caring citizens are so important to our community's well-being.

Seven Easy Steps to Philanthropy

- 1. Discuss your overall philanthropic goal with your family members and legal or tax advisors.**
- 2. Decide how much you want to give.**
- 3. Determine the causes/organizations that will use your donations to meet the goals you support.**
- 4. Meet with us to discuss your plan. Ask questions, explore the different gift vehicles available to you and review the documents needed to implement your plan.**
- 5. Share the documents with your family and your professional advisors.**
- 6. Transfer your gift to us.**
- 7. Review our confirmation of your completed gift and the ongoing process of grants that are awarded from your fund.**

Go Ahead.

Make a difference

By establishing a fund with us, you'll know your gifts are in good hands. Our staff can help you identify where your gifts will best benefit the community.

The result is a lasting legacy that addresses the needs of today and the challenges of tomorrow, establishes a tradition of philanthropy and ensures that your fund will develop community capital to improve the quality of life now and well into the future. We are your premier local source for comprehensive charitable gift planning. To learn more about establishing a fund, please contact us.



What do I do now?

Contact our foundation staff. You may know precisely which organizations you want to support or you may not. In either case, we can help you shape a grant making program that fits your needs and carries out your charitable intent forever. Let us show you just how easy, flexible and effective your charitable giving can be. You can make a difference by giving something back to the community that helped you get where you are today.

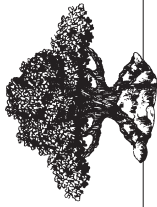
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For **good**. For **ever**.SM



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