



YOUR PLAN FOR GIVING



At the Lutheran Community Foundation, our mission is to serve you and carry out your giving goals—goals that reflect your life experiences, values and passions.

The following questions are designed to provide insight to the giving decisions reflected in your Fund Agreement. Your responses will also help guide the LCF and successor advisors should a recommended charity cease to exist or change its mission so that we can carry out your giving intentions far into the future.

Why I Give. Reflecting on why you give is an important first step and can serve as the framework for making more specific giving decisions.

1. People give for all sorts of reasons—what are your specific reasons for giving? Imagine that you’re telling friends or family members about why you give—what would you tell them?

Where I Give. The following questions are designed to help you focus your charitable interests while providing the LCF with more information about your giving intentions.

2. What organizations/institutions have had the most influence in your life?

3. What issues or needs—local, national or global—concern you the most? What are you passionate about?

4. Think of a charity that you admire and ask, “What do I like about its mission, vision and/or the services it provides? Whose lives are being changed?” Whose lives do you want to change?

5. What charities have you given your time and/or financial gifts to in the past? Which would you give to again? Which would you not give to again?

6. What would you like to accomplish through your giving?

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7. How do you want the benefiting charity(ies) to use your gift? Do you want to support general operating expenses, a certain program, address a specific need or target a specific geographical area?

Donor Signature _____ Date _____

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Please send this completed form to the LCF or submit your responses online at TheLCF.org/yourplan. We will keep your information on file and send you a copy either in the mail or via e-mail, based on how you submitted the form to the LCF. Be assured that your privacy will be protected. For more information, contact the LCF at 800-365-4172.

RESOURCES TO HELP YOU ACHIEVE YOUR CHARITABLE GOALS

The staff of the Lutheran Community Foundation (LCF) is here to help you make informed and thoughtful giving decisions. Please contact us if we can serve you in any of the following ways:

- Identify charities/nonprofit organizations that match your interests and values.
- Research causes and issues important to you.
- Link your giving with LCF-led initiatives, joining other donors to provide support to specific charitable concerns.

Additional resources to help you evaluate charities and learn more about giving:

GuideStar—www.guidestar.org/using/donors.jsp

With free registration, you can view information on all 1.8 million nonprofits listed with GuideStar, and all are formally registered with the IRS or have proven they meet all IRS criteria for exempt organizations.

Charity Navigator: Your Guide to Intelligent Giving—www.charitynavigator.org

Charity Navigator is the nation's largest evaluator of charities. Their rating system examines two broad areas of a charity's financial health—how responsibly it functions day to day as well as how well positioned it is to sustain its programs over time. Each charity is then awarded an overall rating, ranging from zero to four stars.

Inspired Philanthropy—www.inspiredphilanthropy.com

Resources and activities from the popular book, *Inspired Philanthropy*, are available on this site.



YOUR PARTNER IN GIVING

The Lutheran Community Foundation is
a public charity working nationally
to help people give to their
favorite charities and causes.

WHAT WE OFFER

- Breadth of giving options, including bequests, cash, stock, real estate, life insurance, or charitable gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts that first pay a lifetime income to the donor or another party.
- Charitable fund options to match your charitable interests, including donor advised funds and collaborative funds.
- Flexibility to support Lutheran and/or non-Lutheran charities, and the option to change charities if you wish.
- Maximum tax benefits based on when and how your gifts are made. Gifts can be made during your lifetime or upon death.
- Donor-centered programs and online services to help you reach your charitable goals.