



Charitable Giving Programs

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Registered charities, not-for-profit organizations, and community-based programs all rely on charitable donations to operate. There is no shortage of need; on a daily basis we are asked to help with crowd-funding requests, online fundraisers, and direct donation solicitations. Deciding which causes to support, when and how much to give can be overwhelming, and understanding how to make meaningful contributions while maximizing tax advantages, can be challenging. A Charitable Giving Fund (CGF) is a cost-effective, customizable and flexible solution that allows you to accomplish your philanthropic and financial goals through strategic giving.

A Charitable Giving Fund offers the benefits of a private foundation without the hassles and administrative costs. A CGF allows donors to grow their initial donation, tax-free, and synchronize their giving with their personal financial plan. Without the administrative and reporting concerns of a private foundation, you can focus on making a positive impact for your favourite causes. With the support of your financial advisor, you can create a philanthropy plan that aligns with your personal goals.



A Charitable Giving Fund can be established with an initial irrevocable donation of cash, publicly traded securities or other assets, including proceeds from life insurance policies and retirement savings plans.

Additional donations can be made over time, and the CGF can become part of your estate planning as the recipient of bequests or testamentary donations. Once the CGF is established, the donor recommends annual or semi-annual grants to the registered charities of their choice. The fund can continue giving indefinitely because you can name future successors or grant advisors to continue managing the fund once you are no longer able to.

Donors receive a tax receipt that can be used immediately or carried forward up to five years. CGF donors can also receive annual credits of up to 75 percent of their net income in any given year, and a full 100 percent of their net income in the year before they die.

There are other potential tax advantages as well to consider:

- Stocks held in Charitable Giving Funds are exempt from capital gains taxes.
- Donations to a Charitable Giving Fund can be used to reduce a tax liability on the sale of a business.
- Registered assets donated directly to the Charitable Giving Fund bypass probate and are not considered part of an estate.

Contact your financial advisor or tax professional to help you set up a Charitable Giving Fund, and to receive advice on strategic giving. Charitable Giving Funds can grow your initial investment over time, so that your legacy of giving can continue.