

CHARITABLE FUNDS



A charitable fund at a community foundation is an excellent option for individuals, families, or organizations seeking a thoughtful yet straightforward way to manage their long-term giving. These funds provide donors with flexibility, letting them decide how actively they want to be involved.

You can name your fund as you wish—after your family, business, or in a way that allows for anonymity. We recommend starting with a meeting with the NCF team to explore the fund options that best fit your charitable goals. Bringing your professional advisors, such as your attorney, accountant, or financial planner, can help ensure your decisions are as tax-advantageous as possible. Together, we'll create the solution that makes your giving most effective.

BENEFITS OF A CHARITABLE FUND:



Keep Costs Low

Donors never pay out-of-pocket fees. A modest fee covers administration and investments—only after you've received your full tax deduction.



Hassle-Free Giving

We handle everything—due diligence, record keeping, check writing, gift acknowledgments, and tax filings.



Maximize Tax Benefits

Gifts are deductible up to 60% of adjusted gross income for cash and 30% for appreciated assets. Donating long-term appreciated assets may also eliminate capital gains taxes.



Give on Your Terms

Open a fund when it makes sense for taxes, then distribute grants when the right opportunities arise while your assets grow tax-free.



Create a Lasting Legacy

Name your fund for your family, company, or loved one. Endowing it ensures it grows in perpetuity, leaving a lasting impact.

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TYPES OF CHARITABLE FUNDS:

Donor and Corporate Advised Funds

An efficient alternative to costly private foundations, donor- and corporate-advised funds give you the most involvement. You recommend grants, and the community foundation handles all the paperwork. You can also tap into our expertise on local needs whenever you choose.

Field-of-Interest Funds

Supports a specific cause—like arts, education, or health. This allows for collective giving, enabling community support for this need.

Scholarship Funds

Allows individuals, schools, or companies to create opportunities for students. You can set selection guidelines and, where appropriate, help select the scholarship committee and recipients.

Organization Funds

Provides nonprofits with a stable, predictable source of income for their mission—all while the fund grows in perpetuity.

Endowment Funds

Endowing a fund ensures it lasts forever, providing ongoing support for your favorite causes and preserving your family's or organization's name. Spending from permanently endowed funds is limited to 5% of the average asset value. Non-endowed funds can be adjusted by the advisor if desired.

Board Discretionary Funds

Puts the full power of the community foundation to work for you. You can provide guidelines or priorities for your fund, but the foundation makes the final decisions to ensure grants have the greatest impact on the community's pressing needs.