

# CHARITABLE GIFTING MATCH YOUR GOALS TO THE APPROPRIATE GIVING STRATEGY

Charitable giving can help you give meaning to your wealth. It gives an opportunity to express yourself, support the issues you care about and impact the world. At a time when many nonprofits are experiencing urgent needs, charitable giving can help answer their needs. Charitable gifting has long enabled individuals and organizations to make a meaningful impact on society.

"It is one of the most beautiful compensations of this life that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself." — Ralph Waldo Emerson



This white paper is intended to be a guide that empowers your charitable gifting, helping you explore various strategies and their benefits. It will provide you with valuable insights to help maximize the impact of your charitable contributions.

Your legacy planning may take many forms and be driven by multiple factors: a desire to support charitable causes about which you are passionate, a wish to provide a way for family and friends to remember you or a desire to connect to future generations. If you intend to build your legacy through charitable efforts, you may also recognize tax benefits. Often, a tax deduction for charitable contributions is not the driving factor for your gift, but it does enable the charitably inclined to give more. Even donors focused on the intrinsic value of a donation to charity may seek to give gifts in a more tax-efficient manner.

#### START BY DISCOVERING YOUR MISSION

When your giving has a clear purpose, it becomes more satisfying, focused and effective. Consider your values, life experiences, interests and close relationships to help decide on and create a personal charitable mission statement to guide your giving. A charitable mission statement is typically one to three sentences that put the purpose of your giving into words.

Each time you review your charitable giving plan, consider the following questions:

- How much control do I want?
- What is the desired income stream for me, my family and my charity? What percentage of my income do I want to spend on philanthropy?
- When does the charity need the funds to meet both my goals and its own?
- What are some formative experiences in your life?
   How did they shape you?
- Who are the people who have been strong influences on you? What have they taught you?
- When you think about our world and society, what inspires or upsets you?
- What are some of your core values or principles?
- What motivates you to give?
- What issues do you want to affect? Why? How?
- What population do you want to focus on?
- What is your geographic scope?

If you are willing to engage in more complicated planning, it may be possible to maintain partial control over an asset being contributed to a charity or, in limited situations, to maintain a cash flow stream from the asset. If control is your primary concern, then using a vehicle such as a donor-advised fund or a private foundation may be appropriate. However, if a cash flow stream is desired, then a split-interest charitable trust may be more advisable. Do you want to make your giving more strategic and purposeful? Do you have an idea of the impact you'd like to make but are not sure on how to get there?

Consider the following to make a bigger impact with your charitable giving:

#### **Become Focused**

Charitable giving is one area where you may not want to make many small gifts; instead, you may want to concentrate them. Often, you can make a more significant impact when you limit the organizations or cause areas you support to a few you really care about, and then make a larger gift to each. Try creating a charitable mission statement to help you focus your efforts.

#### **Choose a Great Charity**

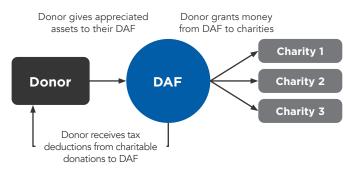
Donating to a well-run charity will have a greater impact on the cause you care about. How do you find one? Begin by doing some basic research using sites like Candid or Charity Navigator, as well as reading materials on the nonprofit's website. Perhaps go a step further by asking the charity directly to get answers to your questions. Always thoroughly research and vet the organizations you plan to support to ensure your contributions are used effectively and efficiently.



Donor gives up more control as charitable organization moves away from center.



#### **DONOR-ADVISED FUND (DAF)**



#### When Is a DAF Appropriate?

- Since a DAF allows you to take a charitable deduction in the year you contribute to the DAF, even if you don't distribute everything in your DAF to recipient charities for years to come, it makes a DAF an ideal vehicle to gift highly appreciated property in high income years or in years you expect income taxes to be higher than normal due to an income event.
- You can donate appreciated securities that some charities may not be able to receive.
- Appropriate for donors who are looking for simplicity and easy administration.
- Contributions to a DAF allow you to donate appreciated stock but still make smaller dollar grants, which is more tax efficient and more feasible than gifting partial or single shares of an appreciated asset to a charity.
- Since DAFs can be established with an initial contribution as low as a few thousand dollars, they are a great choice for many donors. Not only do donors choose DAFs to support strategic giving for themselves, but they may also establish DAFs in the name of their families to continue the legacy of philanthropic giving.

#### How Does a DAF Work?

A DAF is a charitable giving vehicle sponsored by a public charity that allows you to make a charitable contribution to the DAF (501(c)(3) public charity) and be eligible for a deduction in the year of the gift. You can then recommend grants over time to any qualified public charity. The initial contribution used to establish a DAF can be minimal compared to other giving vehicles.

**Example:** You make a gift of stock (held for greater than one year) to the DAF and receive a tax deduction equal to the fair market value (FMV) of the property in the year of the gift. Assets are deposited into an investment account where they can grow tax free. Only one acknowledgment letter for the donation to the fund is required instead of one receipt from each charity receiving a donation from the DAF, which can significantly simplify recordkeeping for tax purposes. You retain the right to advise, but not to direct, the DAF in administering the affairs of the DAF. Depending on the policies of the DAF sponsor, advice may include naming the fund, managing investments, recommending grants and selecting a replacement adviser at the death of the donor. DAFs cannot benefit you directly or any other private interest.

#### **DAF Benefits:**

- Take an immediate tax deduction for your charitable contribution.
  - Deduction for cash: Up to 50% of adjusted gross income (AGI).
  - Deduction for securities and other appreciated assets: Up to 30% of AGI. Gifts of appreciated publicly traded stock are generally deductible at FMV. Gifts of nonmarketable property (i.e., closely held stock, real estate) can also be deducted at FMV.
  - Five-year carry forward of unused deductions.
- Avoid capital gains on gifts of appreciated property.
- Avoid estate taxes.
- Flexibility to support the charities you care about immediately or over time in the future.
- Ongoing contributions and subsequent grant recommendation process is easy.
- Potentially grow your donation tax free by recommending how the funds should be invested until a grant is made.
- Streamline your recordkeeping and consolidate tax receipts, all in one centralized, online location.

- While appreciated noncash assets often are the most tax-smart charitable gifts, not all charities have the capability to accept these gifts. DAFs, which are 501(c)(3) public charities, typically have the resources and expertise for evaluating, receiving, processing and liquidating the more complex assets.
- One key element of a DAF is the ability of the donor and/or his designees to name family members and friends as "account advisors," thereby promoting family philanthropy.
- The names of individual donors/advisers can be kept confidential, if desired, and grants can be made anonymously.
- A DAF also offers flexibility in the amount, frequency and timing of donations to charities.
- DAFs can be an excellent alternative to private foundations because of the ease of administration.
   A DAF is easy to establish and maintain and does not require a custom-drafted legal agreement. It is a separate account, owned and controlled by the sponsoring charity.

#### **DAF Considerations:**

- Although you choose where to make grant recommendations, the sponsoring charity has ultimate control over the grants.
- Sponsoring charities of the DAF are required by law to ensure that grants are made only to qualified charities and cannot be used to satisfy binding pledges.
- There are important differences among DAFs, such as differences beyond fee structure and available investment options. Depending on your situation and charitable objectives, important factors to consider are:
  - Whether the fund will accept nontraditional assets such as closely held stock or partnership interests
  - The number of individuals who may serve as advisors during your lifetime or after your death
  - The presence or absence of requirements to make distributions to the sponsoring charity
  - Whether expert advice on grant recommendations is available from the sponsoring charity
  - Minimums for contributions and additions.



#### PRIVATE FOUNDATION

#### When Is a Private Foundation Appropriate?

A private foundation is appropriate for donors interested in having more control of their giving goals. This includes operating the foundation, hiring staff and investment managers, actively managing grantmaking and sponsoring charitable events. The donor must be willing to accept the added complexities and cost of maintaining a private foundation. Generally, a private foundation requires a substantial gift to warrant the extra cost. A private foundation may not be appropriate for donors with privacy concerns.

#### **How Does a Private Foundation Work?**

A private foundation allows donors and their families more control over their charitable gifting. A private foundation is formed to administer the charitable giving of an individual or family according to their wishes. A private foundation can be used to "pre-fund" several years of charitable giving and is typically established with a substantial initial gift. Private foundations can also be used to give assets that are not easily divided, such as real property, or provide a means to fund foreign charitable endeavors. A private foundation allows you to make gifts to an unlimited number of charities over time and to involve family members in the decision-making process. Private foundations may be organized as nonprofit corporations or as wholly charitable trusts, but the key requirement for either structure is that all the assets are dedicated to charitable purposes. Private foundations are overseen by a board of directors or trustees responsible for receiving charitable contributions, managing and investing charitable assets and making grants to other charitable organizations. While a private foundation may be a significant part of your legacy, you should consider the administrative complexities and cost of maintaining a private foundation when you assess whether it is the appropriate vehicle for you.

#### **Private Foundation Benefits:**

- Establish a charitable legacy beyond your lifetime and allow family members to be employed or serve as members of the governing board.
- Potentially generate more assets through investment management to support the private foundation's charitable mission.
- With full control over grantmaking, a donor can support more than just 501(c)(3) charities. With proper IRS procedures, grants can be made to additional causes, including charitable programs undertaken by individuals, scholarship programs and other entities.
- A major benefit of a private foundation is the control it offers. If the foundation is formed during your lifetime, you may serve as sole trustee, control a board of trustees or directors through veto power or appoint family members, friends and associates to a board with full removal power.

 A private foundation also offers income and estate tax savings. Contributions of publicly traded stock, for example, can significantly reduce estate tax liability.

#### **Private Foundation Considerations:**

- Generally requires a substantial initial contribution.
- Income tax deductions are generally less favorable than those to public charities. Charitable deductions are limited to 30% of AGI for cash and 20% of AGI for long-term publicly traded appreciated securities, as compared to the 60%/30% limits with some other charitable vehicle options. Nonpublicly traded contributions, such as privately held stock or real estate, may be deductible only at tax basis rather than FMV.
- Administratively complex and requires legal setup and ongoing maintenance.
  - Must file detailed and public tax returns on grants and investment fees and provide trustee/director and staff names in addition to salary.
- The IRS also imposes rules on self-dealing, excess business holdings, jeopardizing investments and excess expenditures, all with associated penalty taxes.
- Reporting requirements eliminate the ability to give anonymously.
- Requires a 5% distribution of assets each year.
- While private foundations are exempt from federal income tax, the investment income is subject to a 1% or 2% excise tax.
- A private foundation may be used with other charitable giving vehicles, such as charitable trusts.
   For example: A charitable remainder trust can first make payments to the donor or a family member for life, with the remainder funding a private foundation.
- A charitable lead trust could first fund a private foundation via annual payments over a term of years, with the remainder going to children or grandchildren.

#### CHARITABLE SPLIT-INTEREST TRUST

A split-interest trust is used to designate two beneficiaries: a current income beneficiary and a remainder beneficiary. The current beneficiary receives an annual payout income stream from the trust for a set term and the remainder beneficiary receives the assets left in the trust at the end of the trust term. Charitable trusts offer flexibility and some control over your intended charitable contributions as well as lifetime income, thereby helping with retirement, estate planning and tax management.

There are two different types of charitable trusts: charitable remainder trusts and charitable lead trusts. Both types of trusts "split" the assets between charitable and noncharitable beneficiaries. Which type you choose depends on your priorities with respect to estate planning and wealth preservation and how you want the charity to receive the gift.

#### **CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST (CRT)**

Donor gives appreciated assets to the CRT and receives a charitable deduction

Charity 1

Charity 2

Charity 3

At the end of the trust term, the CRT distributes the remainder to charities

#### When Is a CRT Appropriate?

- The CRT is a good option if you want an immediate charitable deduction but also have a need for an income stream for yourself or another person. If you set instructions to establish a CRT at your death, it is also a good option to provide for heirs, with the remainder going to charities of your choosing.
- If a donor desires to defer a large capital gain.
- May be more attractive when interest rates are higher.

#### How Does a CRT Work?

CRTs are irrevocable trusts created either during life or at death through a person's estate plan. They are possible solutions for individuals who are charitably inclined and own highly appreciated assets (e.g., stock or real estate). A CRT lets you convert the highly appreciated asset into lifetime income. What is unique about a CRT is that the donor receives an income stream from the donated assets either during life or for a period of years (20 years maximum); i.e., "the term." After the term ends, the charity receives what is left in the CRT.

The amount distributed each year must be set at the creation of the trust to be at least 5% of the initial FMV of the trust assets. A CRT may be a good planning option if you have an appreciated asset that you would like to sell and diversify but wish to be able to defer the gain over time. Income is taxed only when distributions are made from the trust. You will receive a charitable deduction in the year of transfer equal to the present value of the remainder value going to charity, which must be at least 10% of the amount contributed.

#### **Two Main Types of CRTs**

- Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust (CRAT):
   Distributes a fixed annuity amount each year
   (which is a fixed dollar amount), and additional
   contributions are not allowed. The annuity payment
   is fixed at the time the CRT is created and does
   not change.
- Charitable Remainder Unitrust (CRUT): Distributes a fixed percentage based on the balance of the trust assets (revalued annually), and additional contributions can be made. The income-stream payment to the grantor could increase or decrease each year based on the unitrust value (e.g., market performance).

Both are an irrevocable transfer of cash or property and are required to distribute a portion of income or principal to either the donor or another beneficiary. At the end of the specified lifetime or term, the remaining trust assets are distributed to a charitable remainder beneficiary.

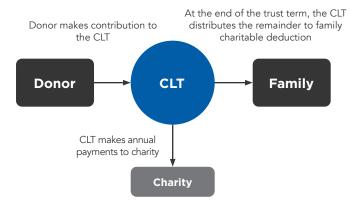
#### **CRT Benefits:**

- Contributing highly appreciated assets to the CRT preserves the value of the assets. Selling the appreciated assets within the trust (tax exempt) allows for the deferral of large capital gain taxes on assets sold.
- Charitable contribution deduction is allowed for the present value of the remainder interest of the trust.
- Investment income is exempt from tax. However, the named noncharitable income beneficiary will pay income tax on the income received.
- The assets gifted to the CRT, as well as their growth, are not included in the grantor's estate.
- The grantor or other noncharitable beneficiaries receive an income stream from the assets gifted to the CRT for their lifetime or a period of years.

#### **CRT Considerations:**

- Per the IRS, the annual annuity must be at least 5%, but no more than 50%, of the trust's assets.
- The CRT's term may be fixed but can be no longer than 20 years, or it can be for the life of one or more noncharitable beneficiaries.
- There are some types of assets that should not be used to fund a CRT, including S corporation stock, because a CRT is not an eligible S corporation shareholder.
- CRTs require legal setup and ongoing maintenance costs.
- Irrevocable; may not be changed. Subject to some private foundation rules.
- More attractive during periods of higher interest rates.
- Consider combining strategies by using a CRT with a DAF for greater flexibility. If you make the remainder charitable beneficiary a DAF, you can more easily adjust and recommend grants through the DAF. This strategy provides greater flexibility with charitable granting at a significantly lower cost than amending a charitable trust, which may be prohibited.

#### CHARITABLE LEAD TRUST (CLT)



#### When Is a CLT Appropriate?

The CLT may be an ideal strategy if you want to pass appreciating property to heirs and reduce gift and estate tax consequences and are also comfortable with giving away the income for a number of years. CLTs may be more attractive to donors who have sufficient other income-producing assets to provide for their cash needs during the charitable term. A CLT may be useful when the asset being contributed has a high potential for future appreciation. It may also be appropriate if your heirs are still young and not capable of assuming control of a substantial amount of assets.

#### **How Does a CLT Work?**

A CLT is an irrevocable trust that generates a potential income stream for the named charitable beneficiary, with the remaining assets eventually going to family members or other beneficiaries. This order is opposite of a CRT's.

#### **Two Main Types of CLTs**

- Charitable Lead Annuity Trust (CLAT): Distributes a fixed annuity amount each year (which is a fixed dollar amount) to charity. The annuity payment is fixed at the time the CLAT is created and does not change.
- 2. Charitable Lead Unitrust (CLUT): Distributes a fixed percentage based on the balance of the trust assets (revalued annually) to charity. The income-stream payment to charity could increase or decrease each year based on the unitrust value (e.g., market performance). The grantor lead trust may be more advantageous to a donor in a year their taxable income is unusually high.

CLTs are not tax exempt, and you will need to decide the tax treatment of the trust when it is created. There are two types:

- Non-grantor lead trust: The trust's income each
  year is not taxable to the grantor (the person who
  funded the trust). In this case, you will not receive
  a charitable tax deduction for creating the trust.
  The trust pays tax on the annual income and claims
  a charitable deduction for the amounts it pays
  to charity.
- Grantor lead trust: In a grantor CLT, the grantor can take an immediate charitable contribution deduction for the present value of the future income stream, subject to applicable percentage limitations depending on whether a public charity or a private foundation is the beneficiary. However, this benefit is mitigated by the fact that the trust income is taxable to the grantor during the term with no offsetting of future charitable deductions as the amounts are paid to the charity.

#### **CLT Benefits:**

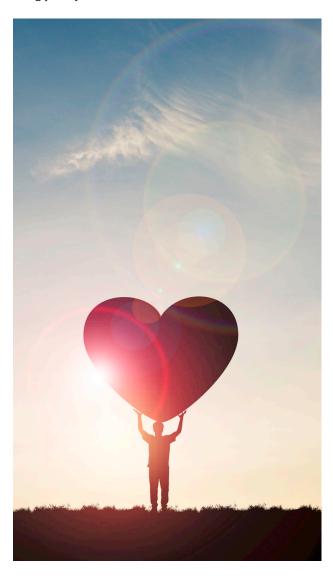
- Donors choose the term of the trust and the amount distributed, at least annually, to charity.
- Assets used to fund a charitable trust are removed from your estate and may not only reduce the amount of tax your estate has to pay upon your death but may also preserve funds for your heirs.
   When assets do eventually pass to the noncharitable beneficiary or beneficiaries, they are not subjected to federal gift tax.
- A CLT can be an effective wealth transfer strategy for highly appreciating assets when interest rates are low.

#### **CLT Considerations:**

- A CLT is not tax exempt. Trust income is taxed like the income of any other complex or grantor trust.
- Requires legal setup and ongoing maintenance costs.
- May be more attractive during periods of lower interest rates.
- The value of the noncharitable remainder interest to beneficiaries will be subject to gift tax at the time the CLT is created. A CLAT can be zeroed out for gift tax purposes; a CLUT cannot be zeroed out.

## TAX DEDUCTION CONSIDERATIONS FOR CHARITABLE GIVING

Donations are deductible for clients who itemize when filing their income tax returns. Currently, the limit on charitable cash contributions to public charities, including DAFs, is 60% of the taxpayer's AGI. The limit on donating appreciated non-cash assets held more than one year is 30% of AGI. Contribution amounts in excess of these deduction limits may be carried over up to five subsequent tax years. Taxpayers who itemize rather than take the standard deduction typically do so because the total of their itemized deductions exceeds their standard deduction amount. Inflation-based adjustments increased the standard deduction amounts for 2024 to new highs: single filers may claim a \$14,600 standard deduction, while married couples filing jointly can claim a \$29,200 standard deduction.



## OTHER CHARITABLE GIVING STRATEGIES AND TAX BENEFITS

## 1. Donate appreciated noncash assets instead of cash.

Many donors don't realize that it's more tax efficient to give appreciated assets instead of cash. Donating appreciated publicly traded securities, real estate and other noncash assets held more than one year means donors generally can eliminate the capital gains tax they would otherwise incur if they sold the assets and donated the sale proceeds. Donors who itemize deductions when filing their tax returns may also claim a charitable deduction for the FMV of the assets. Eliminating the capital gains tax can increase the amount available for charities by up to 20% and increase the deduction amount. Because donating appreciated assets can be a more advantageous strategy, be sure to discuss this option with your financial advisor. When a cash donation is the best option, consider leveraging employer match opportunities to maximize your contribution.

#### 2. Give private business interests.

While publicly traded securities are the noncash assets most commonly donated, donors may own interests in a C corporation, limited partnership (LP) or limited liability company (LLC) that can be gifted to charity. This is especially true if the interests have been held more than one year and have appreciated significantly. Giving a percentage of a privately held business interest can generally eliminate the long-term capital gains tax a donor would otherwise incur if they sold the assets first and donated the proceeds. In addition, the donor can claim a charitable deduction for the FMV of the asset, as determined by a qualified appraiser. When using a DAF, this approach may also allow you to recommend multiple grants to different charities with just one asset and simplify giving. Timing is important; the donation should occur before the sale of the asset, and the donor needs a third-party independent valuation.

## 3. Consider bunching multiple years of charitable contributions into one tax year.

Some donors may find that the total of their itemized deductions will be slightly below their standard deduction amount. When this happens, it could be beneficial to combine, or "bunch," contributions that would normally be made over multiple years into one tax year, itemize on their current tax return and take the standard deduction the following year. This bunching strategy, using both the standard deduction and itemized deductions, could produce a larger two-year deduction than two separate years of standard deductions. Bunching three or more years of contributions together may further increase a donor's tax savings. Combining this bunching strategy with a DAF can be a tax-effective strategy.

## 4. Combine charitable giving with investment portfolio rebalancing.

Whenever you are rebalancing your portfolio or discussing strategies for concentrated positions with your advisor, consider donating shares to eliminate the taxes you would owe if the appreciated position were sold in a taxable account. You can use a part-gift, part-sale strategy to potentially reduce the tax impact of rebalancing. You can accomplish this by claiming an itemized charitable deduction for donating long-term appreciated assets in an amount that offsets the capital gains tax on selling appreciated assets. Consider gifting the low-basis shares to charity (or a DAF) and selling the high-basis shares.

## 5. Offset the tax liability on converting a retirement account to a Roth IRA.

Roth IRAs allow you to set aside after-tax income that grows tax free for future use. Many people elect to convert their traditional IRA to a Roth IRA to allow for tax-free income in retirement and eliminate the income tax liability for beneficiaries, however, the conversion triggers a taxable event. Consider making a charitable gift in the same tax year to offset taxable income generated from the conversion. To ease the tax burden even further, consider accelerating multiple years of gifts into the same year (see "bunching" above) with a DAF.

## 6. Leave a legacy by naming a charity as a beneficiary of IRA assets.

One drawback of traditional IRAs is that heirs pay income taxes on the inherited IRA assets at their own income tax rate at the time of withdrawal. This is why public charities can be ideal beneficiaries of IRA assets. Public charities do not pay tax on IRA income, which means every dollar of the donation can be directed to support the donor's charitable goals beyond their lifetime. Retirement assets can be among the highest-taxed assets in any estate. For example, leaving an IRA to charity and appreciated securities to individuals might allow your heirs to inherit more because of the differences between how these assets are taxed. Note, however, if you are married and you want to designate beneficiaries other than your spouse, you may need written consent from your spouse. Contact your plan's administrator for specific rules governing your qualified plan. In addition, IRA owners can consider using their IRA assets after their lifetimes to fund a CRT, which will combine a gift to charity with income to heirs.

## 7. Satisfy an IRA required minimum distribution (RMD) through a nontaxable qualified charitable distribution (QCD).

Individuals age 70½ and older can direct QCDs of up to \$100,000 per year from their traditional IRAs to operating charities (excluding DAFs) and reduce their taxable income. A QCD can satisfy all or part of a donor's annual RMD, is not taxable income for the donor and does not qualify for a charitable deduction. Note that married couples who submit joint tax returns each qualify for an annual QCD of up to \$100,000, for a potential total of \$200,000. The SECURE Act 2.0 provides for annual inflation-based adjustments of the QCD limit starting in 2024. Starting in 2023, donors can also direct a onetime, \$50,000 QCD to a CRT or charitable gift annuity as part of recently passed SECURE Act 2.0 legislation.

## 8. Elect charitable contributions to offset a high-income year.

If you experienced a particularly high-income year, donating to a DAF may reduce your taxable income. This can be helpful if you're on the threshold of a higher tax bracket or if your bracket is higher now than what you expect in the future. It may also work well when there is a unique event (e.g., a financial windfall or work bonus) that is not anticipated to recur. Remember that with a DAF, your contributions may be invested and have the opportunity to grow tax free, which could result in additional dollars for charity. This strategy can reduce your taxable income in a given calendar year. When paired with a DAF, you can establish a charitable "nest egg" that enables giving now and in the future. For example, consider funding a DAF before you retire to get a greater tax benefit when you are in a higher tax bracket during your working years and use the DAF to fund future gifts to various charities.



#### **CHARITABLE LEGACY PLANNING**

As you plan for your philanthropic legacy, a charity (including a DAF) can be named as the beneficiary of a will or a revocable or irrevocable trust. Vehicles such as DAFs and private foundations can also be used to enable family members to continue philanthropy after your lifetime, thereby further supporting your charitable legacy across generations. Your legacy is not only how you want to be remembered but should also include a set of guiding principles your family will be encouraged to continue. Driven by lifetime actions and contributions, as well as testamentary bequests, your legacy planning may take many forms and reflect multiple factors: a desire to support charitable pursuits about which you are passionate, a wish to provide a way for family and friends to remember you, as a mechanism to connect future generations. If you intend to build your legacy through charitable efforts, you may also recognize tax benefits.

**Estate tax strategies.** The federal estate tax is a tax on the transfer of your property at your death. In 2024, the estate and gift tax exemption is \$13.61 million per individual, so fewer estates will be subject to this tax. By making properly structured gifts and donations, you can remove assets from your taxable estate before being subject to estate tax. In fact, you have an unlimited charitable deduction if your estate plan makes gifts to charities. Consider working with your financial advisor and estate attorney to develop a charitable gifting legacy in your current estate plan.

#### **SUMMARY**

We've explored a range of charitable strategies, from traditional cash donations to options like DAFs and charitable trusts. This guide to charitable gifting strategies is designed to provide you with valuable insights into the various ways individuals can make tax-efficient gifts and to help you make well-informed decisions. It is important to remember that the right charitable gifting strategy depends on your individual circumstances, financial goals and the causes you're passionate about.

#### **Key Takeaways:**

**Define Your Charitable Goals:** Before starting your charitable journey, it's crucial to define your objectives and the causes you're most passionate about. This will help you choose the right giving strategy that aligns with your values.

**DAFs:** These vehicles offer flexibility and tax advantages, allowing you to contribute to a fund that can be distributed to multiple charities over time, giving you more control over your giving.

**Charitable Trusts:** Charitable remainder trusts and charitable lead trusts provide options for long-term giving while also offering financial benefits to the donor or beneficiaries.

**Legacy Planning:** Consider including charitable giving in your estate plan to leave a lasting impact on the causes you care about.



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A distribution from a Roth IRA is tax-free and penalty-free, provided the five-year aging requirement has been satisfied and one of the following conditions is met: age 59  $^{1}/_{2}$ , disability, qualified first-time home purchase, or death. Investing involves risk and the potential to lose principal.

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