

# Grand Rapids Community Foundation

## Will You Leave a Legacy?

*With a simple gift that costs nothing during your lifetime, you can  
make a transformational difference.*



## What Your Legacy Could Do

Thank you for your interest in the important mission of Grand Rapids Community Foundation. Every gift is important to us and shows that you share our vision. If Grand Rapids Community Foundation is one of your most important charitable causes, you can make it part of your legacy. When you remember Grand Rapids Community Foundation in your will, you leave a lasting legacy to your values as you help continue our work far into the future.

## Why Include a Charitable Gift in Your Will?

1. It's simple to do. It can be as easy as including language stating, "I give ten percent of the net value of my estate to Grand Rapids Community Foundation."
2. You can change your mind. We won't receive the gift until after your death. During your lifetime, you can amend anything you choose, i.e., beneficiaries, amounts, etc.
3. Tax-wise, it could be beneficial. Gifts to qualified charitable organizations reduce the value of your estate for estate tax purposes.
4. It's an easy way to support Grand Rapids Community Foundation, and we'd be grateful for your gift. Bequests of every size build our future financial strength.

How you include a gift in your will or revocable trust depends on what you want to accomplish, and what you want to give to Grand Rapids Community Foundation. Here are some options:

1. Give a percentage of your estate — e.g., "I give 25% of the net value of my estate as finally determined for federal estate tax purposes to Grand Rapids Community Foundation."
2. Give a percentage of the residue of your estate — the amount left after specific bequests have been given to individuals and organizations; e.g., "I give 25% of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate to Grand Rapids Community Foundation."
3. Give a specific dollar amount or item of property; e.g., "I give Grand Rapids Community Foundation \$25,000" or "I give Grand Rapids Community Foundation 100 shares of IBM stock."

## Let Your Legacy Mirror Your Passion

Besides choosing how your bequest will come to us, you also have a say in how it will be used and acknowledged here:

- Make the gift unrestricted — it will be used for the top priority need identified by the leadership of Grand Rapids Community Foundation;
- Make the gift restricted, i.e., to support a specific area of interest;
- Set up a named fund, e.g., the Family Fund for Research;
- Memorialize or honor a loved one: “This gift is made in memory of my loving husband, a friend of Grand Rapids Community Foundation.”

The correct legal name of Grand Rapids Community Foundation is:

Grand Rapids Community Foundation (Tax ID #38-2877959), a tax exempt organization located in Grand Rapids, MI.

## Contact Information

Planning your estate and legacy for future generations including your charitable interests takes careful evaluation. Consulting with the appropriate professionals can assist you. Discussing your charitable intentions with us can lead to a much better result than going it alone — and will ensure that your gift is used just as you wish. We can provide valuable information about any of the creative giving techniques mentioned in the planned giving pages on our website.

Act now to take the steps that you need to do to be a good steward of the resources you intend to leave behind. You can contact me below, or use our request for information form on our website to get more information.

