

***INFO SNAPSHOT***

**Five “Easy Ways” to Make a Planned Gift**

(Rev 12/8/23)

Have you ever thought about **LEAVING YOUR LEGACY** with your favorite charitable organization to help it continue its important work in the community after your lifetime? Making a so-called “planned gift” has never been easier… and often takes only 15 MINUTES ONLINE to create. In fact, **ANYONE**, regardless of their financial circumstances, can now make a lasting difference at our organization through one of these five EASY WAYS to make a planned gift!

**#1 Beneficiary Designation of an IRA, 401(k), or Retirement Plan**

* Adding our organization as a partial or full beneficiary of your retirement account is easy, flexible, and revocable.
* Beneficiary forms can be accessed and completed ONLINE and “in minutes” through most financial institutions and IRA custodians. You can also contact your insurance representative to make this change.
* After your lifetime, your gift is made immediately to our organization to help us continue the important work in the community that means so much to you.

**#2 Beneficiary Designation of a Life Insurance Policy or Health Savings Account**

* Adding our organization as a primary or secondary beneficiary for your life insurance policy is easy! And your designation can be adjusted or changed by you at any time.
* Younger, employed individuals can also name our organization as a beneficiary of their Group Term Life Insurance Policy, 401(k), or HSA Account at their place of work.
* And if you have a “paid up” life insurance policy that you no longer need, you can transfer the ownership of the policy directly to our organization. In return, you receive a generous income tax deduction for your gift!

**#3 Payable on Death (POD) Designation for Bank and Brokerage Accounts, Certificates of Deposit, or Real Estate**

* Payable on Death (or Transfer on Death) designations can be created easily to distribute a bank account, certificate of deposit, or brokerage account after your lifetime.
* Your residence, vacation home, or other real estate can also utilize a POD designation to be transferred after your lifetime.
* A simple one-page deed is prepared and filed in the County where the property is located.
* These POD designations are simple, flexible, and revocable at any time!

**#4 Simple Bequest through a Codicil or Amendment**

* A new bequest through your will or trust, is as simple as having a short 1 ½ page codicil or amendment prepared by an attorney. Your full estate plan should NOT need to be rewritten to make this special gift provision.
* Your charitable gift can be a specific amount, a percentage of your estate, or a “remainder” interest in your estate, after distributions to your other heirs are made.
* “Leaving your legacy” can have an important and lasting impact on those in the community who rely on our support to thrive in the future… even after your lifetime.

**#5 Gifts of Appreciated Securities**

* A gift of appreciated securities, such as a stock or mutual fund, is a great way to support our organization and the people we serve through your generosity.
* In fact, giving a stock that may have appreciated in value is one of the **BEST WAYS** for you to benefit from making charitable gifts.
* You receive an income tax deduction based on the full “market value” of the stock, up to 30% of your adjusted gross income.
* The “cost” of making your gift is the price you paid for the stock, which is less than the full gift amount if made by a gift of cash or check.

Let us share more about how anyone can use one or more of these **FIVE EASY WAYS** to make a planned gift to our organization. For more information or a confidential conversation about your philanthropy, please contact **Lauren Clifton-Thompson** at **Amethyst Place** at **816-200-0384** or **lauren@amethystplace.org.** Thank you!