

PLANNING PAYS OFF

-For you, your loved ones and your community

Jane and her husband Mark are both long-time residents of Alexandria. They care deeply about the community and want to leave it a better place for future generations.

They understand the importance of planning ahead to ensure they have a lasting impact long after they are gone. Most importantly, they want to have control over their estate and how it will be administered.



After careful research, they started working with their financial advisor, their local community foundation and their favorite charities to develop a "lasting legacy" that will take care of both their family and the worthy charitable causes that are close to their hearts. In doing so, they can be assured their wishes will be honored to the benefit of their loved ones and their community.

If you are like Jane and Mark and want to leave a lasting legacy, ACT for Alexandria can help. There are a variety of options to consider. It can seem overwhelming, but working with ACT for Alexandria can help guide your planning efforts to find the best match for you.

GET STARTED TO CREATE YOUR OWN LASTING LEGACY

For information on working with ACT for Alexandria to maximize your planned giving options, please contact John Porter at john.porter@actforalexandria.org or at 703-739-7778. We strongly encourage you to seek financial and legal advice on all of your estate planning decisions.



Disclaimer: ACT for Alexandria does not engage in rendering legal, financial or tax advice. Information in our publications and on our website is provided as a public service to provide general information about charitable giving. Many topics related to charitable giving have complexities and nuances that cannot be adequately detailed in brochures, brief articles or announcements. Individuals' personal situations may vary. Please consult your financial or legal advisor.



Leaving a Lasting Legacy

For you, your loved ones and your community



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REAL-LIFE EXAMPLES

CONSIDER THE OPTIONS...

As a donor, you have a variety of options. You can leave a gift through your **will**, make a gift using **life insurance** and/or **retirement plan assets** or **set up a charitable fund at ACT for Alexandria**, for example. Planning ahead can involve both what you do through a bequest and during your lifetime.

MAKE A BEQUEST

– Where there is a will, there is a way!

A will is an easy and effective means to ensure that you fully provide for your family and that your assets are distributed as you wish. Faithful friends have remembered nonprofits in their wills while still providing for their families. A bequest through your will can provide continuing support for your favorite nonprofit causes.

There are three ways you can make a bequest:

Specific Bequest - Designate a specific dollar amount, specific percentage or specific property.

Residual Bequest – After your estate pays all debts, taxes, expenses and specific bequests, the remaining amount –the residue–will be transferred to the nonprofit(s) you have designated.

Contingent Bequest - Designate a nonprofit to receive all or a portion of your estate only under certain circumstances. For example, you could name them as a beneficiary of your estate when and if there are no surviving close family members.

Opportunity: Mary, who is in her late 70s, is interested in engaging her adult children in the family's philanthropy. She is eager to use funds she has diligently put away in an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to support her favorite causes and allow her children and grandchildren to help decide how the funds are allocated.

Charitable solution: By setting up a fund at her community foundation, Mary can bring together her children and her grandchildren to serve as an advisory committee to make recommendations on the fund's distributions. She can rest assured that her assets are going to a good cause and that her family's tradition of giving continues to thrive for generations. An added benefit- using these assets for charitable purposes reduces Mary's tax burden while maximizing the financial value of her IRA funds.



Opportunity: Sara and Victor, a couple in their 40s, like most with a young family, are preparing their wills and want to ensure that their children will be taken care of. It seems natural that they might also consider leaving something to support their community.

Charitable solution: With their desire to plan ahead for the future, they open a fund at the community foundation to ensure that their favorite charity, the local animal shelter, will also benefit from their estate.

ADVANTAGES

A gift through your will has several advantages:

- Charitable gifts from an estate are **100% deductible** for estate tax purposes.
- A charitable bequest may place your estate in a **lower tax bracket**.
- **You may specify** that your bequest be used to benefit one or a number of charitable interests.

If you choose to make a bequest to a nonprofit, consult with your attorney who can incorporate the appropriate language to designate which charities to support and how much you'd like to give.