Thinking Out of the Box: Establishing a Basic Planned Giving Program

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Presented by

Center For Nonprofits & Philanthropy
The Bush School • Texas A&M University

Sept. 10 | 12 PM CT | bush.tamu.edu/events
- 3rd generation family owned bank based in Waco and Temple
- $1.5 billion in assets
- Trust powers since 1951
- $680 million trust assets under management
- Offices in Waco, Temple, Georgetown and Bryan/College Station
- New College Station branch on Highway 6 North access road, near Christ United Methodist
Partner with a trust department for carrying out planned giving program

• Executor for a donor’s estate;
• Trustee for charitable trusts benefitting your non-profit organization;
• Serve as an investment management agent for your endowment;
• Planned gifts are great ways to fund an endowment. If you do not have an endowment supporting your organization and are interested in starting one, contact me as I have been involved with and served on non-profit boards that have started one.
Estate Distribution

Only Three Places to Go

Family

Charity

Taxes
Planned gifts are not new

- Last will of James Smithson, who died in 1829, left property in trust for a nephew, Henry Hungerford. After Henry’s lifetime, the assets were to pass to his descendants;
- Henry Hungerford died in 1835, leaving no heirs;
- Provision that if Henry died without surviving descendants, the property would pass to “the United States of America to found an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men”
- Received by U.S. in 1836: 11 boxes of British gold sovereign coins and other property valued at then $562,000 or 1.5% of the entire U.S. budget;
- Ten years later, Congress and President James Polk enacted legislation that created the Smithsonian Institution
- ...and now you know the rest of the story!
Advantages- Why have a program?

- Planned gifts are multiples (10x, 100x, +) of a donor’s lifetime giving;
- Existing donors can give additional support to a non-profit;
- Flexibility to donor (except some irrevocable gift types);
- Identify and engage donors who may also make current gifts;
- Estate assets are larger than current income;
- Program can be as passive or hands on as the non-profit wants;
- Large enough pipeline means regular future support
Disadvantages

- Not a substitute for current financial support (except QCD);
- Takes time and commitment to implement, maintain and steward planned giving donors;
- Some risk with unusual assets. Consider limitations on what types of assets you will accept (e.g. business interests, oil/gas working interests, real estate)
Keep in Mind…

▪ Most Americans think of charitable giving as:
  ▪ Cash or writing checks
  ▪ Gifts of used items

▪ Few Americans are aware of:
  ▪ Gifts of Securities or Real Estate or other assets
  ▪ Bequests and Beneficiary Designation Gifts
  ▪ Life – Income Opportunities
Dual-Benefit Gifts (Irrevocable)

- Charitable Remainder Trusts
- Charitable Lead Trusts
- Retained Life Estates
Charitable Unitrust

Revered Smith – Age 55

Jane Smith – Age 53

Property
Value $250,000
Cost 125,000
Gain $125,000

5% Unitrust

Principal
$250,000

Church
$533,689

Two Lives

1. Give asset, sell Tax-Free. Bypass up to $125,000 gain may save $18,750. Income tax deduction of $52,858 may save $12,686.

2. UT annual income $12,500. Increased income $10,000 over prior $2,500 income. Estimated income in 41.6 years $771,069. Effective pretax rate 5.27%

3. If trust earns 6.84%. Pays 5%, then grows by 1.84%. After two lives, trust passes without probate to charity.

This educational illustration is not professional tax or legal advice, consult a tax advisor about your specific situation.
Life Estate

Revered Smith – Age 55

Jane Smith – Age 53

Property

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building</th>
<th>$200,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Land</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Deed to Charity

$250,000

Church

$852,481
(Potential Growth)

Two Lives

1. Transfer deed to charity and reserve right to use property for two lives. Owners pay for maintenance, taxes, and insurance.

2. Live in home for two lives. Receive a charitable income tax deduction of $52,644. Current deduction may save up to $12,635 in income taxes.

3. After two lives, property transferred to charity. Full charitable estate tax deduction.

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Revocable After-Lifetime Gifts

- Bequest in Will or Living Trust
- Gift of Retirement Assets
- Gift of Life Insurance
- Beneficiary Designation Gifts
Bequests

- A gift in a Will or Living Trust
- Benefits include:
  - Retain use/control of assets during life
  - Preserve Lifetime Flexibility - Change Mind
  - Desire Charitable Deduction for your estate
  - Want to Achieve Charitable Purpose
  - Simplicity
Ways to leave a Bequest
(have suggested bequest language available)

- A specific amount
  - Ex. I bequeath $100,000 to (name)

- A percentage of the estate
  - Ex. I give 25% of my estate to (name)

- Leave the remainder of the estate
  - Ex. I give the rest and residue of my estate to (name)
Die without a Will?

What happens when someone dies without a will - who gets the property?

- State intestacy laws decide
- Typically family; varies from state to state
- Charity gets nothing
Gifts of Retirement Assets
(.have beneficiary designation language and TIN)

- Retirement Assets include:
  - Traditional IRAs
  - 401(k), 403(b), Thrift Savings Plan and other employer sponsored plans

- Benefits include:
  - Retain usage and control during life
  - Flexibility of a revocable gift
  - Tax Benefits – give highest taxed asset to charity, leaving other assets for family
  - Simplicity – change beneficiary form
On December 18, 2015, the President signed legislation indefinitely extending the charitable IRA rollover, making it retroactive to Jan. 1, 2015. A gift that qualifies, technically termed a “qualified charitable distribution (“QCD”).

The IRA owner must be 70 1/2 or older;

The transfer can be for no more than $100,000, the amount may be smaller (orphan IRA’s);

The QCD is not reported in your taxable income, but you receive no tax deduction;

Only applies to gifts from Individual Retirement Accounts and NOT from 401(k) plans or other tax-favored retirement planning vehicles;

Qualifies for the required minimum distribution. The transfer is made directly from a custodian or trustee to the charitable organization;

Discuss with your tax and financial advisor before initiating such a gift.

Opens discussion of a contingent beneficiary planned gift AFTER lifetime.
Gifts of Life Insurance
(have beneficiary designation language and TIN)

Two Ways to Give

- Name charity as beneficiary of a life insurance policy. (Revocable)

- Change ownership and beneficiary of a life insurance policy to charity. (Irrevocable)
Who Gives Life Insurance?

- **Beneficiary Designation Gift:**
  - Donor of any age who wants to use existing assets to make a gift at death
  - Donor who wants to leverage their current dollars into a larger gift in the future

- **Change Ownership Gift:**
  - Typically an older Donor who has no need for the death benefit for family
  - Wants policy out of Estate for tax purposes
  - Knows gift is irrevocable
  - Wants current income tax deduction
Gift Agreements

- Allow flexibility to the giver

Agreements outline:
- Method of gift
- Purpose of gift
- Administration of gift
A few words about documenting gifts
Why tell charity you’ve made plans for a future estate gift?

- Allows them to say “thank you”;
- Option of anonymity;
- Provides the opportunity to correct errors; e.g., legal name, illegal or prohibited terms and uses;
- Catch errors now vs. cost to repair later via court action.
  Donors would rather funds be spent on charitable activities than legal costs;
- With revocable gifts - you can still change your mind.
Marketing Planned Gifts

- Website, under donor portal (Example- Vannie E. Cook Cancer Foundation)
- Social media (Facebook- Out of the Box Philanthropy)- regular posts about planned giving
- Direct mail/email- highlight different gift methods
- “Planned Giving Council”- legal, tax and financial advisor volunteers, sympathetic to your cause, that can be your voice, eyes and ears in the community;
- Articles
- Donor stories with pictures- MOST EFFECTIVE
- Annual fundraising events
- Response cards- include a box to check on donor response cards to see (1) if your non-profit is already named in a donor’s estate plans or (2) to request planned giving information;
- Legacy Society
- Board’s role
- Endow Current Supporters
Conclusion
With any planned gift, be sure to consult first with your legal and financial advisors.
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