Charitable Gift Planning

Partner with the charitable experts at the Arizona Community Foundation to personalize service for your clients.
“When I contact ACF to refer a client and their family for charitable giving guidance, I am confident they will offer innovative solutions that support my client’s customized philanthropic goals.”

HOPE LEIBSOHN, ESQ.
Attorney, Sherman & Howard, and an ACF partner since 1994
Since 1978, the Arizona Community Foundation has provided charitable advice and fund management for thousands of donors in communities across Arizona and around the country. Partnering with us augments your client relationships by delivering expert charitable advice and customized personal giving solutions for your clients, while benefiting our communities for generations to come.

You remain the expert on financial/wealth management while we support you and your clients to make informed decisions about charitable giving.

It’s a win-win.
Our role is to be an extension of your team, helping your clients realize their philanthropic goals through customized charitable giving solutions. Today, we manage over $1.1 billion in charitable assets and historically have distributed over $1 billion into our communities through grants, scholarships, and loans. Our personalized service model recognizes the individuality and differences of each donor who walks through our proverbial doorway.

- We operate on razor-thin margins with very low cost ratios. Our annual operating budget is less than 1% of assets which means approximately 99% of our assets directly support charitable causes.

- For twelve years, ACF has received the coveted 4-star rating from Charity Navigator. This, their highest rating, speaks to our financial strength and transparency. We are proud of this rating because it highlights that we adhere to best practices and execute our mission in a financially efficient manner.

- We comply with the National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations, voluntarily adopting policies and procedures that strengthen how we conduct business by adhering to the highest ethical standards.

When you choose ACF, you partner with a community-based, nonprofit foundation with over 40 years of experience.
Our professional staff are available to provide guidance for lifetime giving, multi-generational giving, and the creation of charitable legacies.

**External Investment Advisor Partnerships**
Advisors may continue to serve their clients by managing the investment of donated assets while ACF handles grantmaking and related charitable administration. We become a team to ensure your client has confidence in how their assets are invested and how their charitable dollars are distributed. Minimums and oversight requirements apply. Learn more in the [Partnering with ACF to Manage Your Client’s Charitable Assets](#) section of this guide.

We serve as the charitable arm of your clients’ team of advisors, providing philanthropic and tax planning solutions that include:

- **Cost effective alternatives to private foundations** that maximize your clients’ tax benefits, including donor advised funds and supporting organizations
- **Creative philanthropic solutions** for clients facing a unique taxable life event
- **A full range of fund types** that allow your clients to personalize their giving and support cherished nonprofit organizations or causes, both during their lifetimes and beyond
- **Expertise in complex assets** and the infrastructure to accept business interests, stock, real estate, and more
- **Professional, personalized resources** to guide you, your clients, and their families through the philanthropic giving process
- **Continuing education and networking opportunities** for advisors to keep updated on trends in charitable giving and estate planning

As an ACF philanthropic advisor, Lisa works to enhance our relationships with donors and professional advisors.
**Value of Charitable Conversations**

Just like clients, advisors have different comfort levels when it comes to having conversations about charitable giving. We’re here to help you navigate those discussions and add value to your practice.

According to a study by U.S. Trust, 78% of advisors say that discussing philanthropy with their clients is good for their business. Both advisors and clients agree that these discussions (1) deepen relationships, including relationships to the extended family, and (2) aid in establishing new business. Both of these measures have trended upward since 2013.


**Intelligent Giving**

Cash, check, and credit card gifts are popular options for donating, but these offer limited tax benefits—particularly when making larger gifts. We welcome a variety of simple and complex assets as charitable options, whether credited to an existing fund, a fund established by a donor or family, or as a planned gift.

Donating long-term appreciated assets can be an intelligent giving strategy. Donors are generally entitled to the full fair market value tax deduction at the time of their gift and may be able to eliminate capital gains taxes on the gifted asset. These combined tax advantages can result in a donor realizing they have more to give to a charitable fund than if they had sold the assets and donated the cash proceeds.

Additional details including a full list of giftable assets are available upon request from our team of philanthropic professionals.

**Make it Personal**

As many ways as there are to give, there are also charitable strategies and vehicles for every type of donor. Choosing the right approach for every individual situation can help donors give more effectively and efficiently. ACF partners with you and your clients to find the strategy that is right for their needs, both today and in the future.

Because donors are not limited to one giving vehicle at ACF, many choose a combination of lifetime and legacy giving. Some donors even leverage giving vehicles that also generate income during their lifetime. We provide opportunities for donors to create their own named fund or give to an existing fund that aligns with their charitable interests. Either way, funds are professionally managed to safeguard principal and provide a competitive investment return to benefit the community.

With offices across the state, ACF offers a deep understanding of our local regions. Our professional staff work alongside you and your clients to navigate the charitable giving process from start to finish, covering everything from finding the right fund type to handling grantmaking for the donor to support their charitable goals.
As many ways as there are to give, there are also charitable strategies and vehicles for every type of donor.

Dr. Wil Counts
Phoenix’s first African-American pharmacist and an ACP scholarship fund founder
ACF offers a variety of fund types to meet different charitable goals.

**Donor Advised Fund**
Support multiple organizations and causes throughout the years by recommending grants that align with personal passions.

**Scholarship Fund**
Invest in students pursuing college or vocational postsecondary education. Donors can choose different levels of involvement depending on their interests and goals.

**Field of Interest Fund**
Donors select a focus area and let ACF manage competitive grant cycles and award funding to high-performing organizations and programs that align with the selected field of interest.

**Designated Fund**
Donors select one or more nonprofit organizations that will receive a reliable annual income stream.

**Collaborative Fund**
A group contributes to a single fund and grants are recommended by a committee, often supporting a common cause or jointly-funded program.

**Supporting Organization**
Provides separate entity status and the potential to involve infinite generations alongside public charity tax benefits and outsourced back-office administration.

**Grantmaking**
Grants may support nonprofits, educational institutions, tribal entities, government agencies, and most religious organizations anywhere in the U.S. and even internationally. ACF performs the due diligence to ensure grantees are qualified, viable organizations in good standing before distributing grants.
Alternatives to Private Foundations

While all ACF fund types meet specific needs related to donor preferences, a donor advised fund or supporting organization is recommended for those seeking alternatives to creating a private foundation. These three giving vehicles are compared below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>DONOR ADVISED FUND</th>
<th>SUPPORTING ORGANIZATION</th>
<th>PRIVATE FOUNDATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Startup cost</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Minimum size</strong></td>
<td>$25,000</td>
<td>$3 million</td>
<td>Substantial assets required to justify startup and maintenance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income tax deduction</strong>*</td>
<td>60% for cash</td>
<td>60% for cash</td>
<td>30% for cash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30% for appreciated property</td>
<td>30% for appreciated property</td>
<td>20% for appreciated property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Payout requirements</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>5% of assets annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Option to support charities anonymously</strong></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes**</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ability to name successors</strong></td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Consider this when</strong></td>
<td>You want the benefit of being part of a public charity and playing an active role in grantmaking without the high overhead of operating a private charitable organization</td>
<td>You want the formal structure of a private foundation and the potential to involve infinite generations of family members while enjoying the public charity tax benefit and administrative support provided by ACF</td>
<td>You want total control over the operations of the organization including staffing and investment decisions and are comfortable with the high startup costs, government regulations and oversight, reduced tax benefits, and lack of anonymity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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*Percentage of adjusted gross income  **Only for grants under $5,000
Creating a Legacy

Donors can also establish or give to a named fund after their lifetime. ACF’s planned giving professionals work with you and your clients to customize the type of planned gift and fund type for donors and their heirs.

Planned Giving Options

Gifts that are planned today and realized after your client’s lifetime ensure a healthy future for the causes and organizations that they care most about. Some planned gifts even qualify for income and estate tax benefits.

Because donors are not limited to one giving vehicle at ACF, they may choose a combination of lifetime and legacy giving.

**SIMPLE PLANNED GIFTS:**

- GIFTS BY WILL/TRUST
- BENEFICIARY DEEDS FOR REAL ESTATE
- BENEFICIARY DESIGNATIONS
  - IRAs; pensions and retirement plans; life insurance; commercial annuities
- PAY ON DEATH/TRANSFER ON DEATH
  - Checking/savings/investment accounts

**COMPLEX PLANNED GIFTS** that may involve current income tax benefits:

- QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS USING IRA ASSETS
- RETAINED LIFE ESTATES (REMAINDER INTERESTS IN HOMES, FARMS, OR SECOND RESIDENCES)
- LIFE INSURANCE POLICIES
- CHARITABLE LEAD TRUSTS

**SPLIT INTEREST PLANNED GIVING VEHICLES** that generate lifetime income:

- CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES
- CHARITABLE REMAINDER UNITRUSTS
- CHARITABLE REMAINDER ANNUITY TRUSTS
Additional details and suggested gift planning language are available upon request from our team of planned giving professionals.
Partnering with ACF to Manage Your Client’s Charitable Assets

The Arizona Community Foundation manages nearly 2,000 funds with endowment and trust assets exceeding $1.1 billion. A third of those assets are managed by external investment advisors who have been recommended by donors. This provides a platform for professional advisors across the state to support their clients’ philanthropic interests while ensuring millions of charitable dollars are available to our communities. These external investment advisors must be independent of the donor and adhere to ACF investment guidelines, policies, and oversight by ACF’s investment team.

An ongoing partnership
External investment advisors may continue to manage the investment of their clients’ donated assets while ACF handles grantmaking and other related charitable tasks. We work together as a team to ensure your client has confidence in how their assets are being invested and how their charitable dollars are being distributed into the community.

Advisors may also partner with ACF to manage a client’s matured planned gift. This ongoing partnership between the advisor and ACF ensures the client’s philanthropic wishes are honored long after their lifetime.

Fund asset minimums
In order to provide this benefit to professional advisors, ACF has certain asset minimums in place to ensure efficient management and oversight by our investment team. These minimums include:

- $25,000 for each subsequent ACF fund managed by a single advisory firm with an existing ACF partnership
- $250,000 TOTAL for the first ACF fund managed by a single advisory firm in conjunction with at least one planned gift
- $100,000 TOTAL for one or more ACF funds managed by a single advisory firm

How to partner
Investment advisors who are external to ACF must meet certain requirements and be approved by the ACF investment team. These partnerships are governed by ACF’s Externally Managed Fund Standards and Guidelines, based on IRS requirements regarding the management of charitable funds.

External investment advisors are required to complete brief quarterly oversight reports for all ACF funds that they manage. Additional information is available at azfoundation.org/ExternalManagement.
How the Program Works

Funds that meet the minimum balance requirement are eligible to recommend an external investment advisor.

Once approved, your firm can manage your clients’ ACF fund assets, in adherence with ACF investment guidelines, policies, and oversight by our investment team.

When your clients are ready to make grant recommendations, ACF will work directly with you to ensure enough funds are available to meet their grantmaking goals.

DONOR
Makes a tax-deductible contribution to any type of ACF fund

ADVISOR
Provides investment management on the ACF fund’s balance

NONPROFITS
Donor recommends grants—ACF vets the organizations and distributes grants

ACF FUND
All assets managed by an external investment advisor
Want to learn more? Let’s talk.

Our team is ready to build a lasting professional partnership. Call us today to set up a meeting.

Disclaimer: The information contained in this document is not intended as and is not a substitute for tax advice. For current tax or legal advice, please consult with an accountant or attorney.