

GUIDELINES & FORMAT FOR BEQUESTS

A Bequest: What is it?

A bequest is a gift you leave through a will or trust. It allows you to support your charitable interests because you can support your community while retaining complete control over your assets during your lifetime. You may leave a specific dollar amount, a percentage of your estate, or whatever remains after other bequests, such as those to family members, are satisfied.

Here are the ways you can make a bequest to the Summit Area Public Foundation:

- You may direct your bequest to benefit our grantmaking programs, allowing our trustees to address major community issues as they develop over the years.
- You may use your bequest to create a new fund to support a specific nonprofit organization.
- If you have a charitable interest in a particular area, you may designate your bequest for that purpose.
- You may create a scholarship fund.

If you anticipate that a bequest to the Summit Area Public Foundation will be greater than \$10,000 (\$250,000 for scholarships), please let us know as there is additional information required by us to set up a fund that could affect the language you use in your will or trust.

How you can structure your bequest:

- You can give cash or appreciated stocks. You may also give other assets, subject to SAPF's advance approval.
- Bequests to the Summit Area Public Foundation earn a charitable deduction on estate tax returns.
- You may name a new fund, an existing fund, or a specific group or organization to receive your bequest to the Summit Area Public Foundation.
- Some of the most tax-efficient asset types to give through your estate from retirement plans, since heirs would be pay both income tax and estate tax on the gift, if they were to receive the IRA.
- You may arrange for your heirs to receive lifetime income from a charitable trust, with the remainder going to the Summit Area Public Foundation for charitable purposes.
- You may wish to consider a charitable remainder trust, which will pay a percentage of the trust's assets to your heirs each year, with the remainder paid to SAPF.

Next Steps:

- It is important to leave clear instructions. You may use our suggested language as a guide when naming the Summit Area Public Foundation as the recipient of gifts through your will or trust.
- If you want to create a major legacy, a new donor-advised or restricted-purpose fund, you and/or your professional advisors should [contact SAPF](#) to discuss your charitable goals.
- For retirement assets, simply name the Summit Area Public Foundation as a beneficiary.

SAMPLE LANGUAGE FOR A CHARITABLE BEQUEST

The following four types of bequests direct your gift to the Summit Area Community Foundation.

- **Percentage:** "I give ___% of my estate to the Summit Area Public Foundation, a not for profit corporation of the State of New Jersey."
- **Specific:** "I give (choose one) 1) the sum of \$_____, 2) _____ shares of stock in _____ Company,, or 3) my real property commonly known as _____ to the Summit Area Public Foundation, a not for profit corporation of the State of New Jersey."
- **Residual:** "I give my residual estate to the Summit Area Public Foundation, a not for profit corporation of the State of New Jersey."
- **Contingent:** "In the event of the death of any of the beneficiaries, I give to the Summit Area Public Foundation, a not for profit corporation of the State of New Jersey, (percentage, specific, or residual language as above)."

If you have an existing fund at the Summit Area Public Foundation, place that fund's name in the examples above.