



Program Partner Name: Winona Community Foundation

Classification: Community

Federal I.D. #: 36-3500853

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What are community foundations? Community foundations are independent, public charities that steward philanthropic resources from institutional and individual donors to community-based organizations. Community foundations strengthen communities by enabling people to create charitable funds that address a wide range of interests. Further, community foundations serve thousands of people who share a common interest—improving the quality of life in their area. Through visionary, diverse, and inclusive philanthropy, community foundations have become catalysts for significant community change. Individuals, families, businesses, and organizations create permanent charitable funds that help their region meet the challenges of changing times. The foundation invests and administers these funds. All community foundations are overseen by a volunteer board of leading citizens and run by professionals with expertise in identifying their community's needs.

1) Decide when to give - donations to the unrestricted general fund and creation of separate funds can take place now, be established in your will, or be created through a trust arrangement that benefits your family as well as charity. You may give in honor of a special event or to support a cause. Tax deductions are earned at the time of your gift to the fund, while grants awarded from the fund may be immediate and/or continue into the future.

2) Decide what to give - almost any kind of asset can be used to start a fund or make an unrestricted general fund donation. These can include gifts of cash, publicly traded securities, stock, interests in limited partnerships, real estate, life insurance, bequests, annuities, tangible personal property and private foundation assets.

3) Choose the purpose or intent of the fund - we offer a variety of fund types that are flexible to meet your different charitable interests and reflect your values.

4) Choose the name of the fund - if you decide to create a separate fund, it can be named for the donor, the donor's family or as a memorial to someone special. Every grant from the fund will carry this name. If you prefer anonymity, you may choose a name that reflects the fund's charitable purposes.

Here are some ways we can help you:

- Managing the fund, overseeing its investment and maintaining tax records
- Filing tax returns and providing an independent audit
- Providing the services of experienced grant-makers who know the community, its needs and its organizations
- Ensuring the grants are awarded in the name of your fund to verified non-profits
- Issuing regular financial reports detailing the status of the fund

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