



When you leave a legacy of support through a planned gift to Residential Opportunities, Inc. (ROI), you help make a difference for the life of a loved one and for future generations in our community. Planned gifts allow you to combine your charitable giving goals with your estate and financial planning goals. Your gift will be a lasting tribute to our mission to partner with children and adults with disabilities and their families so they may live more meaningful, healthy, and independent lives in their homes and communities.

Description of Planned Giving Options

Cash and Securities

Whether you give to the ROI Independence Fund or another designated fund, your cash donation will make an immediate impact for the individuals we serve. We accept currency, checks, credit cards, and stocks.

Wills or Trusts

Residential Opportunities, Inc. (ROI) may be designated as the beneficiary of a bequest or gift by the terms of the donor's will or by a revocable or irrevocable trust. Sample bequest language for restricted and unrestricted gifts is available to donors and their attorneys to insure that the bequest is properly designated. The suggested bequest language for ROI is:

"I give Residential Opportunities, Inc. (_____ percent of the residue of my estate) or (the sum of _____) to be used by ROI (in the area of greatest need) or (for the _____ fund)."

Life Insurance

A donor may contribute all or a portion of a new or existing life insurance policy, naming ROI as owner and beneficiary. Upon the donor's death, the proceeds will be used by ROI to create an endowed fund in the donor's name. The donor continues to make all premium payments and they are tax deductible.

Retirement Plan Assets

Retirement plans owned by the donor may be gifted to ROI at death. These include Individual Retirement Accounts (IRA), 401(k), 403(b), and defined contributions plans. (Annuity plans, such as defined benefit plans, in which retirement benefits are paid out as income and principal does not accumulate, generally cannot be used for charitable gifts.) Methods for gifting retirement assets include:

- Naming ROI as primary, successor or contingent beneficiary for all or part of the assets upon death of either the retirement asset owner or spouse;
- Creating a testamentary charitable remainder trust with the assets upon the death of the asset owner, naming ROI as remainder beneficiary and non-charitable heirs as income beneficiaries.

Endowment

ROI has an endowment fund held at the Kalamazoo Community Foundation where a donor can make a direct contribution or planned gifts. Annual withdrawals from this fund are limited to their investment growth, thereby never depleting the fund's principal and ensuring the gift endures into the future.

Please seek legal counsel when taking advantage of any of the following planned giving options

Charitable Gift Annuities

Charitable gift annuities provide a fixed rate of return for life to the donor or other beneficiaries, in exchange for a gift of cash or marketable securities to ROI. The amount of payment is dependent upon the age of the donor and the size of the gift.

Charitable Remainder Unitrust

Under a charitable remainder unitrust, the donor irrevocably transfers money, securities, or other property to a trustee selected by the donor. The trustee pays the donor a fixed percentage of the net fair market value of the trust's assets, as determined each year. The payments are made for the life of the income beneficiary or for a fixed period of years not to exceed 20 years. Upon termination of the income beneficiary's interest, the assets of the unitrust are transferred to ROI.

Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust

A charitable remainder annuity trust is identical to a unitrust, except that the income beneficiary receives a fixed dollar amount annually from the trust.

Charitable Lead Trust

A charitable lead trust is a trust arrangement that would pay current annual income to ROI for a specified period of years, with the trust principal reverting to the donor or the donor's family when the trust ends.

Life Estate Agreement

A donor may contribute a personal residence or farm to ROI and retain the right to occupy the property until death. Upon the donor's death, ROI will own the entire interest in the property.

This information is not intended as tax, legal or financial advice. Please consult your professional advisor.

For more information, please contact: Grace Gheen, Executive Project & Community Relations Manager



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