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www.supportmercynorth.org

Bequests

A large number of charitable organizations in the United States receive bequests from dedicated supporters. In 2009, U.S. charities received bequests that totaled over \$22 billion.

Bequests, which are gifts left to an organization through an individual's will, are planned gifts. They are referred to as planned gifts because the decision to give was made today but the gift will not be received until a future date. This allows the use of the asset or assets during the individual's lifetime.

A bequest can be a beneficial way to reduce estate taxes by preventing the erosion of one's estate size. A bequest can be in the form of a specific gift of cash or property. It may be structured to direct support to a specific program or can be given without restriction to best meet the future needs of a favorite charity.

The bequest is a very simple method of providing support to your charity of choice. It is a simple codicil or addendum to a will.

Sample Bequest Language

Some sample language: (This is not intended to be legal advice. A qualified professional should always be contacted before completing any legal agreement.)

Specific Amount - "I give \$ _____, to Mercy Foundation North, a California non-profit corporation, presently located at 2400 Washington Avenue, Suite 410, Redding, CA 96001, to be used for..."

Percentage of Estate - "I give to Mercy Foundation North, a California non-profit corporation, presently located at 2400 Washington Avenue, Suite 410, Redding, CA 96001, ____ percent of my estate to be used for..."

Contingent Gift - "I give to Jane Doe (my niece) ____ dollars, but if she is not then living, I then give the same to Mercy Foundation North, a California non-profit corporation, presently located at 2400 Washington Avenue, Suite 410, Redding, CA 96001, to be used for..."

Residuary - "All of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate, both real and personal, of whatever kind and wherever situated, which I may own or have the right to dispose of at the time of my death, I give to Mercy Foundation North, a California non-profit corporation, presently located at 2400 Washington Avenue, Suite 410, Redding, CA 96001, to be used for..."

Bequests provide substantial support to local charities which enable them to carry out their mission. Gifts of this type have been received by Mercy Foundation North and have allowed the Foundation to provide funding for the medical, health, social service and educational needs of our community. These gifts are significant to the Foundation, its supported hospitals and organizations as well as the community in general. Those who provide notification to us that Mercy Foundation North is included in their estate plans have the opportunity of being part of our "Legacy Society."

Jeanine Bourgeois-Hedman
President

Bill Altavilla
Planned Giving Specialist

Mercy Foundation North is a philanthropic organization raising funds to support the Sisters of Mercy's healthcare, educational and social ministries in the north state. Three not-for-profit hospitals and two social service organizations are among the healing endeavors sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, and all are part of Catholic Healthcare West: Mercy Medical Center Mt. Shasta, Mercy Medical Center Redding, St. Elizabeth Community Hospital, Shasta Senior Nutrition Programs, and Golden Umbrella.