



CAUSE CONNECTION

Connecting people who care to causes that matter

The Road to Year-End Charitable Giving Through Your Donor-Advised Fund

As the year approaches its end and the spirit of giving resonates, it's vital to consider not just the act of philanthropy but the targeted impact it can make, especially within our local community. Donor-Advised Funds (DAFs) have emerged as a powerful vehicle for strategic giving and leveraging them for year-end philanthropy can significantly enhance the positive outcomes of your generosity while ensuring local causes benefit optimally.



Make Your Giving Local

Serving the Lehigh Valley... Consider allocating your year-end contributions through the Community Foundation, which has an innate understanding of the local issues and community needs. With established connections and a commitment to the region's success, LVCF serves as a prime choice for donors who wish to make a difference right here, in our Lehigh Valley.

Make Your Giving Easy

Handling the administrative complexities of charitable giving can be simplified by utilizing our **expertise and streamlined processes**. The Foundation offers various fund options, guiding you towards the most suitable choice to complement your giving objectives effectively.

Additionally, for those considering or managing private foundations, our **Evergreen Fund** offers an alternative that minimizes the challenges and expenses associated with establishing and managing a separate foundation.

Maximize Your Impact

By channeling your year-end contributions through a Donor-Advised Fund, you can **strategically distribute funds to support causes close to your heart**. Utilize our deep knowledge of the region and its nonprofits to identify and back organizations whose missions directly align with your interests and the betterment of our community.

Whether addressing pressing issues like food insecurity, housing, substance use disorders, or environmental concerns, our team will **assist in identifying the most crucial funding priorities** for the organizations, ensuring your resources support them in the most impactful ways.

Ensure Your Legacy

As an enduring entity serving the community for 50 years, LVCF is committed to the long-term well-being of the Lehigh Valley. Partnering with us ensures your generosity continues to make a lasting impact, well beyond your lifetime.

The Community Foundation understands the significance of managing your funds in accordance with your wishes and offers the discretion to meet evolving community needs while respecting your intended goals.

By leveraging a Donor-Advised Fund at the **Lehigh Valley Community Foundation** for your year-end giving, not only can you streamline the process and optimize your impact, but you also contribute to the lasting progress and betterment of our local community. This tailored approach, merging the advantages of DAFs with a focus on local impact, aims to resonate with donors and their advisors by highlighting the benefits of supporting the Lehigh Valley through strategic, year-end philanthropy. [Contact Carrie@lvcfoundation.org](mailto:Carrie@lvcfoundation.org)

It's That Time Again | Tips for the Season of Giving

The year-end holiday season will soon be upon us. It's traditionally the busiest time for philanthropic giving. Fortunately, this year brings a positive economic outlook, which can provide an extra boost of motivation for those inclined to give. Many are taking this opportunity to become even more intentional about their charitable priorities. Here are some key points to consider:

1 Give locally.

The communities we live in impact our lives more than any other place in the world. It is where our families bond and learn values, where we shop, and where we participate in activities to pursue personal growth. Our communities provide a large portion of our network and relationships. By giving to the place that provides so much for our daily life, we are investing in a better quality of life for ourselves and others.

2 Give unrestricted.

After choosing a nonprofit you like, make an unrestricted gift. Unrestricted donations enable the nonprofit to use the money where it's needed the most. Nonprofits are experts at serving their own mission. General operating support allows for flexibility and capacity building initiatives that strengthen the organization from the inside out. The Lehigh Valley Community Foundation supports nonprofits with unrestricted grants and also, as a nonprofit, accepts unrestricted gifts to support our own community leadership initiatives and operations.

3 Talk to your advisor.

Before making any significant gift to charity, consult with your CPA, attorney, or other advisors to understand the impact on your taxes and estate. Consider which assets you might use for your philanthropic plans, like an IRA Required Minimum Distribution, or appreciated stock. The Lehigh Valley Community Foundation offers philanthropic vehicles like Donor-Advised Funds and Designated Funds to simplify your giving.

4 Give now, decide later.

If you are planning for a charitable tax deduction this year but are undecided about which nonprofits to support, consider opening a donor-advised fund at Lehigh Valley Community Foundation. A donor-advised fund can be set up in one meeting and can be built over time.



5 Explore matching gift programs.

Some companies offer matching gift programs that can increase — even double — the impact of your gift. Contact your human resources department to see what your employer offers. You'll be doubling the positive impact you have on community nonprofits.

6 Leave a bequest.

Support for your favorite charities will go well beyond this year if you create a permanent fund in your estate plan that names them as beneficiaries. An update to your will ensures that nonprofit(s) you've helped throughout your lifetime will continue to be supported by you forever. Talk to us about how the Community Foundation can be an integral part of your philanthropic plans.

7 Get involved.

Getting involved in the organizations that you support financially can give you greater satisfaction and fulfillment. Consider volunteering, attending agency events, or going out to lunch with a staff member to build a deeper connection and understanding of the impact of the organization.

8 Let LVCF do the work.

Working with the Community Foundation gives you access to our extensive knowledge of the local nonprofit community and the broad charitable needs of our region—so you can stay informed about the organizations you support and the impact of your giving.

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