

you may appoint a charitable interest as beneficiary of an existing policy or you may decide to make a gift of the policy by giving all rights and benefits to the organization.

You might also wish to make a gift of a new policy for charitable purposes. This is an easy way to make a larger gift over time.

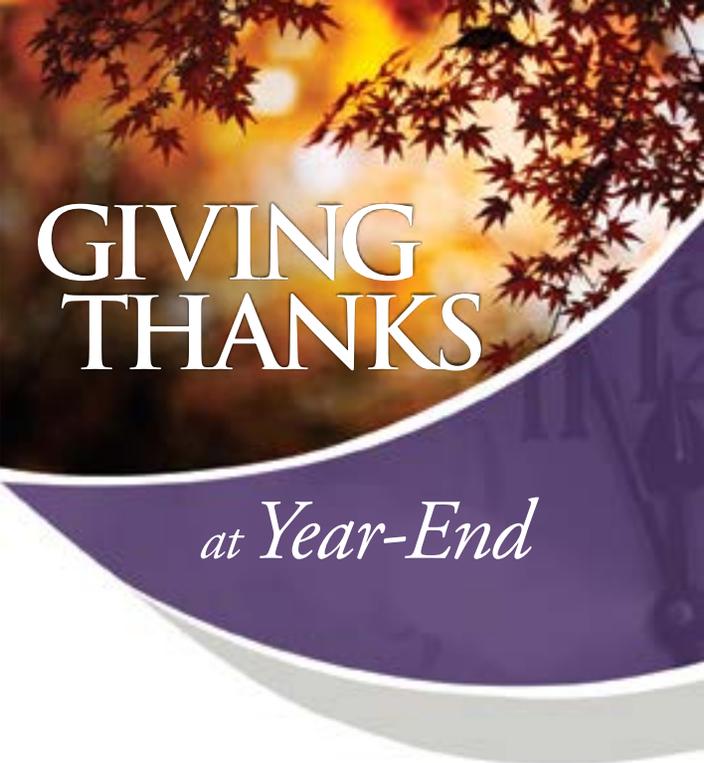
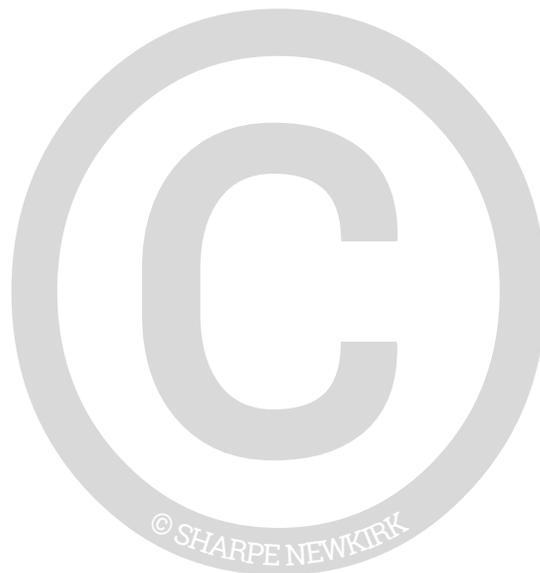
**Other Accounts:** In most states, similar beneficiary arrangements are available for various brokerage, financial and bank accounts.

**Your Long-Range Plans:** You may enjoy the privilege, as many others do, of arranging charitable gifts through your will, trust and other estate plans. Be sure to use the full legal name of any charitable recipient remembered in this way. We would be honored to be part of your legacy after you provide for loved ones. Last year, Americans gave a record amount of more than \$35 billion in this manner.

**Special Giving Options:** Some plans help you structure gifts that feature special benefits for you or others before making a gift to a charitable recipient. You can arrange to provide a fixed or variable income to yourself or your loved ones while also benefiting us at a time in the future you determine. Giving in this way can also serve to create a large charitable deduction that can provide current and future tax savings. For

more detailed information on these and other giving options, contact us.

The year-end giving season is the most generous time of the year. We hope this information will help you choose the best ways to fulfill your philanthropic plans for 2018. Your gifts help us carry out our mission every day, all year long.



# GIVING THANKS

*at Year-End*

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[This space as well as the back cover may be used for logo and other contact information.]

The purpose of this publication is to provide general planning information. It is not intended as legal, accounting or other professional advice. For assistance in planning charitable gifts with tax and other financial implications, the services of appropriate advisors should be obtained. © Copyright MMXVIII by Sharpe Newkirk. All Rights Reserved. 8024-18

Americans are among the most generous people in the world—volunteering their time and sharing their resources. In fact, charitable gifts in 2017 totaled more than \$400 billion and set an all-time record!

It's no secret that a large percentage of charitable gifts are made during the final three months of the year, with the most occurring between Thanksgiving and December 31. This guide will provide tips to help you make the most of your gifts this year.

## CASH GIFTS

Gifts of cash are popular and convenient as they may be made in person, online or by mail. They can be in the form of cash, check, credit card or electronic transfer. For tax purposes, be sure to complete your cash gifts before December 31 and save all receipts and acknowledgments.

## GIFTS MADE FROM RETIREMENT PLANS

Most adults participate in one or more retirement plans such as a 401(k), Individual Retirement Account (IRA) or 403(b). Funds that you do not need may be a source for current or future gifts.

Those age 70½ and older with an IRA may make charitable distributions directly to qualified charities of up to \$100,000 per year

on a tax-free basis. A couple that each has an IRA may direct up to \$200,000 in gifts per year in this manner. Transfers are not taxed and also count towards your annual Required Minimum Distribution. These tax-free gifts are particularly wise for those who no longer itemize deductions for income tax purposes.

You can also arrange a future gift by naming a charitable recipient as a beneficiary of a retirement plan. You and your family can enjoy use of the assets and charitable beneficiaries receive any remaining funds in the future.

## NONCASH GIFTS

Each year, Americans choose to give billions of dollars of gifts other than cash as well. Gifts of stock and other publicly traded securities, such as mutual funds, lead the way. These gifts are also easy to complete and

usually made electronically from the donor's account. In some cases, stock certificates may be mailed or delivered to the organization or its representative. Please contact us if you are considering a gift of securities or have any questions.

Other property such as art, collectibles, patents, copyrights and other valuable assets may be given. Special rules apply to these types of gifts and the IRS requires an appraisal for most gifts greater than \$5,000, but an appraisal is not required for publicly traded securities. Please check with us or your advisors for more information.

## OTHER SMART WAYS TO GIVE

**Insurance Policies:** Many people have life insurance policies that they took out years ago for a specific purpose but are no longer needed today. In those instances,

