



# LEGACY



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

A Newsletter from The Heritage Club

Volume XI Issue II

## THE LEGACY YOU LEAVE



One of the most effective - and one of the simplest - ways you can support your Boys & Girls Club is by including a gift in your will. Also known as a charitable bequest, a gift made through your will can benefit both you and the children we serve.

Why might you want to make a charitable bequest? Here are some of the benefits of bequest giving:

- A bequest is flexible – You can make a gift today by including a provision in your will and change your mind anytime in the future.
- With a bequest, you can give as much or as little as you want to charity through your will without impacting your lifestyle today.
- You may continue to benefit from and make use of your assets (your home, stocks, IRA, etc.) during your lifetime, since the gift is made after you pass away.
- It typically costs you nothing to add a charitable bequest to your first will - or even to make changes at a later date if you decide to update your plan.
- If you have a taxable estate (over \$5.34 Million this year), your estate may benefit from estate tax savings. This means that you can preserve and give more of your estate to your family.
- You can create a legacy by which you will be remembered. Please let us know if you have already included us in your plans so that we can recognize and thank you!

Whether or not you include your Boys & Girls Club in your plans, it is important for you to have a will written by qualified counsel. Here are some reasons why you might want to create a plan for the future:

WITH A WILL	WITHOUT A WILL
You can provide for your family, friends and the causes that mean the most to you.	Everyone must guess what you intended with your estate.
Probate is made easier because your intentions are clear.	Probate can be burdensome if not contentious for family and friends.
You write the legacy and story by which to be remembered.	Your legacy is written by others or not written at all.

If you do not have a will, or if it needs updating, please call us for a free estate planning attorney referral. If you are interested in learning more about creating a plan, please visit [www.Clubgift.org](http://www.Clubgift.org). You will find a free guide to planning your will, bequest language and other tools designed specifically to help you and your attorney. Please call or email us if we can be of assistance to you in your planning.

# HIGHER LIVING WITH BALANCED GIVING



We are so grateful for your gifts which help us further our mission. Balancing your gifts is a way to help you feel even better about giving to the Club and it also helps our Club run more smoothly and predictably.



Think of everything we balance: work schedules, tires, checkbooks, meals, and so much more. Yet, for all we so carefully keep in tune, few of us consider balancing our charitable giving. But just like everything else that runs better when aligned, our charitable giving can be more powerful and effective when it takes both today and tomorrow into account.

If you make annual gifts to our Club, you may be interested in ways to continue your giving into the future. If you have already included us in your will or created another planned gift, you may wish to see the benefits of your giving today.

If you have given to us primarily through annual fund donations, consider making a planned gift. A planned gift such as a bequest made through a provision in your will costs nothing. But when you include a planned gift for a cause you already give to each year, you will find those annual gifts have a new, deeper meaning. For maximum balance, consider helping our cause through a

charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder unitrust that pays money back to you each year. Your planned gift could actually fund your lifestyle and help you continue your annual gifts for the rest of your life!

Many people who have already created planned gifts with our Club want to begin seeing the results of their giving today. If this is your goal, you might consider supplementing your giving with annual fund contributions. It's not the amount that matters. It's the routine, consistent giving that complements the planned gift to come.

People tell us that when they balance their annual and future giving, they find both more fulfilling. While we are grateful for all gifts, whatever the size, when donors create a balanced plan, we are better able to plan for the needs of today with the goals of tomorrow. If you'd like, we can help you find the balance that is right for you. Call or email us and we will help you develop a personal solution to meet your goals.

IF YOU HAVE MADE THIS GIFT IN THE PAST...	CONSIDER ADDING THIS TO YOUR PLANNING
Regular annual fund gifts	A planned gift such as a will or gift annuity
A planned gift	Starting or increasing your annual fund giving

# GIFT ANNUITY THE GIFT THAT GIVES BACK TO YOU



*Did you know there is a way to support your Boys & Girls Club and receive cash back? It's called a charitable gift annuity.*

Many people like the reliable constant payments of a charitable gift annuity. Here are some of the benefits of a charitable gift annuity:

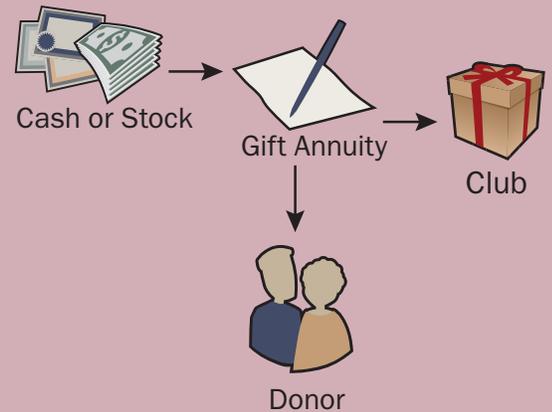
- Income Tax deduction to offset taxes
- Capital gains tax savings (for an appreciated asset gift)
- Fixed payments to you (and another person) for life
- Higher payments for a deferred payment gift annuity
- Possible tax-free payments

By transferring stock to our organization you can receive immediate capital gains relief for your gift. Avoiding an immediate capital gains tax on the sale of your assets can provide a big benefit for you if you are facing higher capital gains tax rates this year.

If the idea of cash back and tax savings interests you, please visit [www.Clubgift.org](http://www.Clubgift.org) to learn more about the charitable gift annuity. Please call or email us for a free no-obligation illustration with your potential gift annuity payment and tax benefits.

While a gift annuity offers many options, the benefits increase when you fund it with an appreciated asset like stock.

## Charitable Gift Annuity



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When you make a gift to us of cash or an appreciated asset in exchange for a charitable gift annuity, we make a promise to pay you for the rest of your life. Your payment rate is fixed based on your age and never changes.



## SAVVY LIVING By: Jim Miller

*How can I choose a financial planner or advisor that will help me to meet my life goals? My wife and I are five or six years away from retiring and could use some professional help to get us on track.*

With the many individuals and companies offering financial services today, choosing a professional that you can trust and will help you to reach your goals can be confusing. Here are some suggestions that might help your search.

### WHERE TO LOOK

Ask your friends or relatives for recommendations. If you don't know anyone who can give you a referral and you're looking for broad-based financial advice, hire a Certified Financial Planner ("CFP"). A CFP is the "gold standard" in the industry. They will ask about your life goals and talk to you about financial strategies that might help you to achieve them. While they focus on the big picture, they will also advise you on the details of your financial life.

It is probably better to hire a "fee-only" CFP rather than one that earns a commission by selling you financial products. Fee-only planners charge only for their services. To find a fee-only planner in your area, visit Financial Planning Association ([fplanet.org](http://fplanet.org)) or

the National Association of Personal Financial Advisors ([napfa.org](http://napfa.org)). Also, try the Garrett Planning Network ([garrettplanningnetwork.com](http://garrettplanningnetwork.com)), a network of fee-only advisors.

There are more specialized financial advisors that might meet your needs. A Registered Investment Advisor (RIA) registers with the Securities and Exchange Commission or a state securities regulator to manage investment portfolios. A Chartered Financial Consultant (ChFC) specializes in insurance and estate planning. Finally, a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) can help with tax planning.

Be cautious of many other financial advising titles, designations and certifications that are available. You can read more about nearly every certification or designation at [www.finra.org/investors](http://www.finra.org/investors) (click on "Tools & Calculators" and then on "Understanding Investment Professional Designations").

### HOW TO CHOOSE

After you find some candidates in your area, schedule an appointment to meet

and interview them. Find out about their experience, expertise and the types of services they provide. Ask them about calculation of fees, investment philosophy and availability. Look for someone whose clients are in situations similar to yours.

It is also wise to do a background check on your potential advisor. Look up firms and individuals at [finra.org](http://finra.org) or [sec.gov](http://sec.gov), check state financial regulation departments (see [nasaa.org](http://nasaa.org) for state contact information) and search Better Business Bureau records (go to [bbb.org](http://bbb.org)). Also, ask to see the advisor's ADV Form, part 2. On the ADV Form, the SEC requires that financial advisors list their education, services, fees, disciplinary actions and conflicts of interest.

For more tips on choosing a financial advisor, visit the CFP Board at [letsmakeaplan.org](http://letsmakeaplan.org).

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Savvy Living is written by Jim Miller, a regular contributor to the NBC Today Show and author of "The Savvy Senior." The articles are offered as a helpful and informative service to our friends and may not always reflect this organization's official position on some topics.