Donor-advised Fund

Do you want your philanthropy to be easy? Would you like to give when you are ready — on your timetable instead of having an annual payout requirement? Do you want to use your philanthropic dollars to support high performing nonprofits addressing issues you care passionately about? If you answered “yes” to these questions, then a donor-advised fund could be right for you.

What is a donor-advised fund?
Donor-advised funds are our most popular and flexible type of fund. Donors can lock in an immediate tax deduction by contributing to a donor-advised fund, yet distribute the money, which grows tax-free, to their chosen charity or charities over time. Donors may give grants locally, nationally or internationally to any nonprofit that is a 501(c)(3) organization.

A donor-advised fund is a way to give that is:

- **Personal** — Grants are made in the name of your donor-advised fund or, if you choose, anonymously, to nonprofit organizations you recommend anywhere in the U.S. or around the world.
- **Flexible** — You can add to your donor-advised fund whenever you want. The Community Foundation can accept donations of almost any asset, including stock and real estate.
- **Fast** — A donor-advised fund can be set up and running as soon as a fund agreement is completed and assets are gifted to the Community Foundation.
- **Knowledgeable** — Your personal philanthropic officer is your conduit to the Community Foundation’s deep knowledge of the issues affecting the metro Atlanta region and the effective nonprofits that address those issues and meet your charitable goals.
- **Family-friendly** — Family philanthropy provides donors a way to teach their children and grandchildren about financial stewardship as it relates to giving back. The Community Foundation and its staff are experts in family and multi-generational philanthropy. Your personal philanthropic officer can work with your family to explore their values and interests and how these can influence their philanthropy. Your family can make grants from your donor-advised fund now or in the future. Donors interested in a deep level of family engagement can utilize our enhanced philanthropic services and receive customized services such as family meetings, family genograms, managed grantmaking processes and long-term philanthropic planning. (Minimum annual administrative fee of $2,500.)

Jen and Paul Bennecke established a donor-advised fund at the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta to allow them to grow a long-term resource to support the issues they care most about, including child welfare.

“If you care about the community and making families stronger, you can back those values with action. If we as a family can help make this community a better place, we want to do it.”

Jen and Paul Bennecke
About us

Since 1951, the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta has been a trusted philanthropic resource for our 23-county metro Atlanta region. We lead and inspire philanthropy to increase the vitality of our region and the well-being of all residents.

Interested in fund options at the Foundation?

For more information, please visit cfgreateratlanta.org or call 404.688.5525 and ask to speak with a member of our philanthropy team.

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A donor-advised fund is ideal for families and individuals who:

• Want simplicity
• Support multiple charities
• Seek help occasionally or often with decisions about their grant recommendations
• Are interested in learning more about their community
• Want to make charitable contributions at financially advantageous times from a tax standpoint
• Want to give anonymously

Financial facts

• There is no minimum fund size to establish a donor-advised fund.
• There is no fee to establish a donor-advised fund.
• Donor-advised funds are not subject to a 5% payout requirement.
• Donor-advised funds are not subject to an excise tax on investment income.
• Donor-advised funds do not require a separate tax identification status or tax return.
• Annual administrative fees:
  – $1,000 minimum for essential services
  – $2,500 minimum for a donor-advised fund with enhanced philanthropic services
  – $5,000 minimum for a donor-advised fund with an outside investment manager