

Supporting Organizations

Understanding Supporting Organizations

A supporting organization is a separate legal entity that qualifies for the tax advantages of a “public charity” due to its affiliation with the Community Foundation. Through establishing supporting organizations, the Community Foundation meets the unique needs of organizations looking for cost-effective, comprehensive operational assistance while maintaining autonomy.

A supporting organization is a subsidiary of the Community Foundation that has its own charitable status, board of directors, bylaws, investment policies and grant priorities. Through its close connection to the Community Foundation, a supporting organization is conferred public charity status and receives all of the associated tax benefits.

How it works

- You select the name, identity, mission and issue areas you want to support
- Your supporting organization operates independently as a separate legal entity with its own 501(c)(3) status. The Community Foundation assists you with required federal and state regulatory reporting
- You create a board of directors in cooperation with the Community Foundation
- You and the board of directors establish the investment strategy and grant priorities
- You can rely on the Community Foundation’s community expertise to lead you to effective, innovative organizations and strategies you wish to support – locally, nationally or internationally
- Family members can actively participate in your giving, and you can create a lasting legacy by involving successive generations
- Supporting organizations have no minimum payout requirement
- Unlike a private foundation, gifts to the supporting organization qualify for the highest tax-deduction limitations and are not subject to excess business holdings rules
- Supporting organizations are not subject to the excise taxes that private foundations must pay

Administrative support allows you to focus on giving while we take care of the paperwork*

We provide:

- Consultation to you and the board of directors regarding mission development, grantmaking priorities and communications strategies
- Due diligence and expenditure responsibility for grants you wish to make locally, nationally or internationally
- Request for proposal support, including screening applications and creating reports for the board and grantees
- Corporate recordkeeping for board functions
- Allowance for legal services for initial preparation and amendment to organizing documents and policies
- Branded letterhead, checks and collateral, and website development
- Access to the Foundation’s support staff, systems and facilities
- Financial and accounting services, including GAAP financial reporting, coordination of Form 990 preparation and filing with the IRS
- Annual reporting to state and local government agencies
- Management of all procedures and documentation necessary to be compliant with current laws and regulations

**Some services require an additional fee*

Community expertise, based on the Foundation’s long, deep ties to the Greater Atlanta region, allows you to give with confidence

We provide:

- One-on-one consulting with experienced staff members knowledgeable in your philanthropic passion areas
- Connections with other donors and stakeholders with similar interests
- Opportunities to co-invest with the Community Foundation and other Foundation donors

ABOUT US

The Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta inspires and leads the Atlanta region toward equity and shared prosperity for all who call it home. TogetherATL is the Foundation’s strategic ethos, working through a collaborative approach with community stakeholders, donors, nonprofits and others to examine complex challenges the region faces and create solutions that build a thriving region.

ARE YOU CONSIDERING A SUPPORTING ORGANIZATION FOR YOUR PHILANTHROPY?

For more information or to discuss your philanthropic goals, contact Alison O’Carroll, director and philanthropic counsel, at aocarroll@cfgreateratlanta.org or call 404.333.0241.