The Fairfield County Foundation…

One Brick…

One Project…

One Scholarship…

One Fund…

One Dollar…AT A TIME
Since 1989, the Fairfield County Foundation has helped donors create lasting charitable legacies that carry on their names, their values and their priorities. Within the Foundation are more than 200 individual charitable funds, each created by donors to address those local causes they are most passionate about. Today, Foundation grants support the arts, children’s programs, health and wellness projects, community development, academics and much more. From scholarships for deserving Fairfield County youth and equipment to keep people fit and healthy, to improvements to green spaces throughout our county and grants to feed the hungry, the Fairfield County Foundation touches every member of our community in some way.
A variety of assets can be used to make charitable gifts and there are many ways that you can give immediately or in the future.

- **Cash:** Cash gifts are an easy way to make an impact in your community and allow you to give at any time.
- **Securities:** Securities, both publicly traded and closely held, can be used to set up a fund.
- **Real and Personal Property:** Gifting real and personal property often allows an individual to contribute more than they may have thought possible.
- **IRA/Retirement/Pension Fund Assets:** Retirement assets are most often used as testamentary gifts, creating charitable funds as part of an overall estate plan.
- **Life Insurance:** Life insurance makes it possible to give meaningful gifts to the community and to create a fund.
- **Unique Assets:** Examples might include stamp, coin or art collections; copyrights and patents; royalties; or other unique assets of value.
- **Wills and Bequeaths:** Bequests offer varied ways of giving to the Foundation. Through an outright bequest in one’s will, cash securities or other property may be bequeathed.
- **Charitable Remainder Trusts:** A Charitable Remainder Trust provides life-long income for one or several income beneficiaries, such as the donor and the donor’s spouse, and leaves the remainder interest to the Foundation or designated beneficiary.
- **Charitable Lead Trusts:** The income generated from assets placed in a Charitable Lead Trust is paid to the Foundation for a period of years, after which the trust is terminated and the assets are returned to the donor.
- **Charitable Gift Annuities:** The Charitable Gift Annuity can make it possible for donors to assist the community in the future while providing lifetime income for themselves. Upon the death of the donor, the remaining principal is retained by the Foundation to carry out the donor’s charitable intentions.
- **Transfer of a Private Foundation:** This type of gift affords many advantages, including lower overhead, staff to assist with charitable goals, and a higher tax deduction for any future gifts.

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<tr>
<th>Your Goals</th>
<th>Your Actions</th>
<th>Your Benefits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Make a quick and easy gift</td>
<td>Contribute in cash or by check</td>
<td>An income tax deduction and immediate benefit for the community</td>
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<tr>
<td>Make a gift with other existing sources</td>
<td>Example: Donate a life insurance policy you no longer need</td>
<td>Current and possible future income tax deductions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Defer a gift until after your lifetime</td>
<td>Bequeath cash, property, or a portion of your estate</td>
<td>An estate tax deduction</td>
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<tr>
<td>Make a gift while minimizing the impact on taxes and capital gains</td>
<td>Contribute long-term appreciated stock or other securities</td>
<td>A charitable deduction that may reduce capital gains tax</td>
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<td>Minimize the two-fold taxation on IRA or other employee benefit plans</td>
<td>Designate a fund at the Foundation as one of your beneficiaries</td>
<td>May reduce tax liability on assets left to heirs</td>
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<td>Secure a fixed payment stream and make a gift to benefit charity</td>
<td>Create a charitable gift annuity</td>
<td>Tax benefits and fixed payments for life</td>
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<tr>
<td>Receive income today while creating a permanent philanthropic legacy for the future</td>
<td>Create a charitable remainder trust that pays income to you during your lifetime for a designated time period</td>
<td>At maturity, assets benefit the fund you establish to meet the community needs important to you</td>
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The Foundation has several options for setting up a fund that best meets your giving goals.

- **Donor-Advised Funds:**
  This type of fund enables donors or their designees to recommend grants based on their personal charitable interests.

- **Unrestricted Funds:**
  Unrestricted Funds are gifts to the Foundation’s unrestricted general fund. The principal and income is distributed at the Foundation’s discretion in the form of grants to 501(c)(3) organizations. A minimum gift of $5,000 is required to establish a named fund. Gifts of any amount are accepted into the general fund.

- **Scholarship Funds:**
  Individuals, families, companies or organizations can establish Scholarship Funds. Once in place, a Scholarship Fund continues to grow with additional contributions from the original donors, from other contributions and through market growth. The donor of a Scholarship Fund has the ability to define the scholarship’s advisory committee and the guidelines for candidate selection, requirements and award use.

- **Agency Funds or Endowments:**
  Agency Funds or Endowments can be created to perpetually support your community service agency. Agency funds hold assets for a charitable organization and distribute the principal or earned income in accordance with the agency’s specific instructions.

- **Designated Funds:**
  Designated Funds are established to ensure that support will be provided to specific eligible non-profit organizations, often organizations that donors have been involved with during their lifetimes. This is an opportunity to leave a lasting legacy in the donor’s name.
The Fairfield County Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to enhancing the quality of life and economic viability of our community. Our mission is to receive and administer charitable gifts that will provide long-term, continuing benefits to Fairfield County and its residents by supporting educational, scientific, cultural, social, environmental, medical and other charitable purposes.

The Foundation is accredited by the National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations Program, demonstrating that it has met the nation's highest philanthropic standards for operational quality, integrity and accountability.

The Fairfield County Foundation was formed in 1989, when Probate Judge S. Farrell Jackson challenged our community to establish a foundation to keep significant trust funds invested locally. A small committee of caring citizens joined together to establish the Foundation to provide an entity to administer contributions from individuals, families, corporations and organizations.

The Foundation is Building A Legacy by creating an endowment that will enable future generations to meet the changing needs of our community.