



**LUTHERAN
SOCIAL SERVICES**

National Capital Area

PLANNED GIVING GUIDE

Make a Gift

We hope that you will consider including Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area in your estate or financial plans and help sustain our mission for generations to come. Whatever approach you choose, your gift will honor the vision of our founders. There are many options for including LSSNCA in your long-range planning.

Bequests and Wills

The simplest way to make a planned gift is by naming LSSNCA in your will. A bequest is a meaningful way to support our work without affecting your cash flow during your lifetime. Your attorney can include it when you prepare or revise your will or you can add a codicil at any time.

There are several types of bequests:

- A *specific bequest* indicates the amount of cash, securities or other asset you wish to leave to LSSNCA. Or it can indicate a specific percentage of the total value of your estate.
- A *residuary bequest* leaves the remaining portion of your estate (or a percentage of the total) after all other bequests have been satisfied.
- You can make LSSNCA the recipient of a *contingency bequest*, which takes into account the possibility of a change in your beneficiary's circumstances.

Retirement Plans

You can contribute to LSSNCA through your retirement plan. Certain retirement plans, including IRAs, Keoghs, 401k and 403b plans, allow you to defer paying taxes until you withdraw income during retirement. However, after your death these accounts are often exposed to significant taxes.

Therefore, you might find it beneficial to contribute all or part of these funds to LSSNCA while leaving other assets to your heirs. Simply name LSSNCA as a beneficiary of your retirement plan. You will retain control of the plan during your lifetime, and you can change your beneficiary at any time if your circumstances change.

Life Insurance Policies

LSSNCA welcomes philanthropic support through gifts of life insurance policies when the policies are paid in full and LSSNCA is named as the owner and irrevocable beneficiary of the policy.

You can name LSSNCA as the primary or contingent beneficiary of an existing or new life insurance policy. Although a current income tax deduction is not available, it will result in a federal estate tax deduction for the full amount of the proceeds payable to the charity, regardless of policy size. Or you can make an assignment or gift of a life insurance policy that you currently own or donate a new life insurance policy, approaches which allow a current income tax deduction.

Additional options which you can discuss with your attorney include: [Charitable Gift Annuities](#), [Charitable Trusts](#), and [Bank Accounts, Securities, and Certificates of Deposit](#)