

giving is golden

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Leaving her mark: Anna Bayer, a caring neighbor

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Anna Bayer's example reminds us that the legacy we leave is just as important as the life we live.

In North Miami Beach, Craig Savage sifts through a box filled with personal mementos of his dear friend Anna Bayer. He remembers his friend as someone who lived selflessly for others. Today Anna's generosity continues to impact the lives of her dear friends, and those she never knew.

Originally from Brooklyn, New York, Anna graced the shores of Miami Beach 45 years ago, accompanied by her mother, Martha, and her sister, Pauline.

Through wise investments, Anna developed a comfortable savings, very little of which she spent on herself. She would refuse vacations or any other expenditures on herself, opting instead to give her money to charity.

As the years passed, so did Anna's sister and mother, leaving her to lead a relatively solitary life.

A dear friend and neighbor, Morna Reed, recalls, “I would take her out every day to go shopping or to the bank.” Her daily routine usually involved a stop at the bank before relaxing for lunch in the neighborhood. In the absence of family, Anna managed to build a community around herself by befriending people she met in her building, the neighborhood and local bank.

In December of 2006, Anna Bayer, 86, passed away. But her generous and kind spirit lives on through the legacy she left behind. Before her death, Anna had crafted a thoughtful will in which she allocated her assets to United Way of Miami-Dade,



Anna Bayer

among a host of other charities within the community.

Anna Bayer's example reminds us that the legacy we leave is just as important as the life we live. When you contribute to the United Way Endowment, you help ensure that you will touch all of our lives, today, tomorrow and forever.

When Morna Reed thinks of the mark Anna left on her life, she reflects, “I was lucky to have had her.”

And so were we.

Charitable gift annuities ensure results

About United Way of Miami-Dade

United Way of Miami-Dade is focused on bringing the community together to focus on four key goals:

- helping kids and families lead successful lives
- improving health and independence
- responding to emergency and basic needs
- encouraging neighborhood and civic involvement

By strategically investing in quality programs, building partnerships, advocating for better policies, engaging people in the community and leveraging resources, United Way is dedicated to improving lives and creating lasting change in the community.

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Charitable gift annuities have gained popularity in recent years as the economic climate has become more uncertain. Increasingly, individuals are realizing their financial and charitable objectives by using gift annuities.

At a time when interest rates are near record lows, the return on an investment in a charitable gift annuity is comparatively high. For instance, a couple ages 68 and 70 can receive an annual payout with a 5.8 percent rate of return. The payment is fixed for life, secured by the assets of the issuing charitable organization.

Charitable gift annuities can meet a variety of objectives that include planning, supplementing, deferring and securing retirement funds. They can be used to reduce income and estate tax obligations. Gift annuities can also be issued to benefit loved ones, such as children, grandchildren, siblings and close friends.

How it works

You give cash or securities — or a combination of these and other assets — to United Way of Miami-Dade in exchange for a contract that obligates us to pay a fixed annuity for life either to you alone or to you and a survivor.

The annual rate of your payment is based on your age at the time of the gift. The older you are, the higher the annuity rate. You can also set up a deferred gift annuity so you can delay payments until a later date — such as when you reach retirement. The payout rate will be significantly higher than that of an immediate payment gift annuity.

Whether you create an immediate or a deferred gift annuity, you will receive a sizable charitable income tax deduction in the year you set up the annuity. And, each year a portion of your payment will be income tax-free.

Take a step toward a secure future

Donors wishing to support United Way of Miami-Dade can do so by creating a charitable gift annuity. At the same time, you can rest assured that you are taking sound steps to protect your financial future.

For more information about how you can benefit from a charitable gift annuity, please contact us for a no-obligation personal illustration.

More flexible than you thought

Here are some unique ways to incorporate a charitable gift annuity in your financial and estate plans:

1. Provide college tuition for grandchildren.

A gift annuity can be arranged with the annual payments deferred until a later time, such as when a grandchild will enter college, and limited to a predetermined distribution period. You can realize a substantial income tax deduction and may even avoid gift tax on the transaction.

2. Exchange a personal residence for a gift annuity while continuing to enjoy lifetime use of the property.

The charitable organization must have significant assets in order to make the payments, and you must give the remainder interest in the residence to the charitable organization. This allows you to keep living in your house and provides a significant flow of payments for life.

3. Fund a gift annuity with family items.

You can give jewelry, or any other tangible personal property, in exchange for a gift annuity. The value of the income tax deduction is based on whether the gift is related to the purpose of the organization, giving you a deduction based on the fair market value; if unrelated to the purpose, then the deduction is based on the cost basis.

Don't miss your opportunity to make a gift this year

Discover the different ways you can make a meaningful gift this year in our FREE brochures, *21 ways to make a difference*, *The charitable gift annuity — answers to frequently asked questions*, and *Estate planning strategies that meet your needs*, by completing and returning the enclosed reply card.



21 ways
to make a difference



United Way of Miami-Dade • The Annex Building
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The charitable
gift annuity
answers to frequently asked questions



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Estate planning is not “one size fits all”

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Married, never married, widowed, divorced... each of us has unique needs when it comes to how and to whom we make our bequests. Here are a few checkpoints for developing an estate-planning strategy for people who are on their own.

Review your will regularly

The passage of time and changes in personal circumstances, or in your investment, business or real estate holdings, may wreak havoc on your will and the ways that you have decided to transfer your assets.

Remember, too, that not all of your assets pass by way of your will. Property held jointly with a right of survivorship passes outside your will. Retirement plan benefits and life insurance will be paid to whomever you named on a beneficiary designation form. Make it a point to review your designations regularly.

Plan your charitable gifts

Be sure to consult your advisors when making a substantial gift to charity. You'll want to fashion your gift to take maximum advantage of the tax breaks available. The charitable bequests that you make in your will won't be subject to estate tax. If appreciated securities are sold to fund a charitable gift, you will realize long-term capital gain, and there will be tax to pay. When you give the securities directly to the charity, and the charity sells the shares, no tax will be due.

By setting up a charitable remainder trust, you can make a substantial gift and reserve income payments from the trust for your life. (If you set up the trust in your will, you may name someone to receive the income.) And you will be able to treat part of your gift as an immediate charitable deduction. A charitable lead trust works in reverse: The charity receives the payments for a specified number of years; then the remainder passes to the beneficiaries that you have designated.

Make sure someone can “step in”

Consider naming someone to take control of your financial life if a disabling illness or injury occurs. With a durable power of attorney, you delegate the duties and responsibilities as outlined in the durable power document.

A living trust may offer more comprehensive financial protection and security. You can create the trust now but continue to control the assets that you place in the trust. The trustee takes over investment management and other important financial decisions only if and when you become disabled.

Without executing a durable power or a living trust, court proceedings may be necessary in order to name a guardian to manage your finances. The process can be time-consuming and often costly, and the proceedings are public, there for anyone to scrutinize.

Have a medical emergency plan in place

Closely allied to questions of financial decisions in the event of incapacity are questions of medical treatment decisions. An advance medical directive allows you to exercise control over your medical care in the event that you cannot make decisions yourself.

A living will lets you express your wishes regarding your care should you be in a terminal condition and, generally, deals with questions concerning what life-sustaining treatments (if any) should be undertaken. With a durable power of attorney for healthcare, you delegate someone to make major healthcare decisions for you, based upon your directions.

Obtain a second opinion

Estate planning, in at least one respect, may be more difficult for a single person than a married couple; you face some difficult decisions alone. Family and friends may be helpful, but it's especially important as well to assemble a professional, trustworthy team of advisors. They can provide the benefit of a reliable second opinion when you need it.

About The United Way Endowment

The United Way Endowment perpetuates United Way of Miami-Dade's mission of building community by helping people care for one another.

The Endowment is building a permanent savings account, the interest income of which will provide resources needed to respond to our community's emerging health and human service needs. By helping individuals and families make a lasting difference while making sound, tax-wise financial decisions, The Endowment touches all of our lives...today, tomorrow and forever.

Maintain a healthy lifestyle: exercise regularly

If your doctor could prescribe just one medicine that would help you stay healthy and strong, would you take it? There is such a medicine — it's called exercise. Several scientifically conducted studies have recently shown that exercise is almost as good as the fountain of youth. It can turn back the clock for adults of all ages.

Four types of exercise are important

Think of these four types of exercise as separate but equal areas that help in creating health benefits for you: strength, balance, flexibility and endurance.

Strength exercises build muscle. Weight training is the most common type of strength exercise. Strength exercises increase your muscle mass and physical power. They also increase your metabolism, which helps keep your weight and blood pressure in check. Muscle strength translates into the ability to carry out many activities that are important in everyday life, such as climbing stairs, carrying heavy bags of groceries and lifting.

Balance exercises prevent falls. Examples of balance exercises include side leg raises and knee flexions. Some balance exercises build up your leg muscles. Others improve your balance when you do simple activities like briefly standing on one leg.

Flexibility exercises keep you limber. Simple stretching exercises help prevent injuries and keep your body flexible. They do this by stretching your muscles and the tissues that hold your body's structures in place.

Endurance exercises have several benefits. Brisk walking, swimming and jogging are all endurance exercises. These exercises elevate



your heart rate for at least 20 minutes and also burn calories. The overall effect is improved health for your heart, lungs and circulatory system. Endurance exercises may also delay or prevent diseases such as diabetes, colon cancer, heart disease, osteoporosis or stroke.

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Find out what kind of charitable gift is the right kind for you to make. Visit www.unitedwaymiami.org/plannedgivingguide to learn more.