What Does It All Mean? Incorporating Giving USA's New Findings Into Your Planned Giving Work

Wm. David Smith, CAP[®]
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Presenter



Wm. David Smith, CAP® President and CEO Heaton Smith Group

- Founded Heaton Smith Group in February 2009
- Heaton Smith is the leader in blended and documented estate gifts in its space
- More than 20 years in nonprofit sector
- Works with nonprofits and donors across the country
- Serves clients from a wide range of missions
- Has facilitated more than \$350 million for the nonprofit sector
- Serves on the Board of Directors for Giving USA and The Giving Institute
- Member of the National Association for Charitable Gift Planners, Georgia Planned Giving Council and the Association for Healthcare Philanthropy
- Holds a BS in Psychology from the University of Kentucky
- Attained the Chartered Advisor in Philanthropy Designation in 2017.

2019 Giving USA Foundation Report

Total Giving in 2019: \$427.71 Billion

Individuals \$292.09B 68%

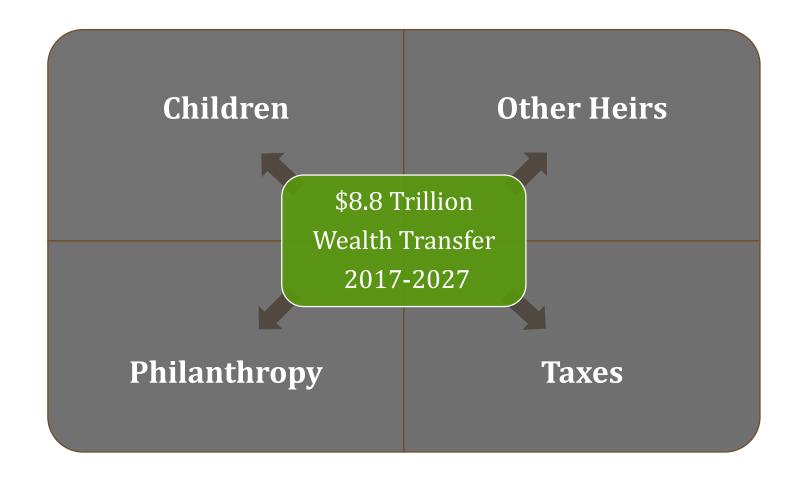


Corporations \$20.05B 5%

Foundations \$75.86B 18%

Bequests \$39.71B 8%

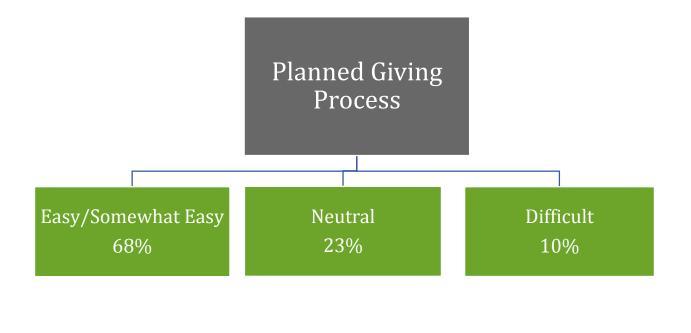
Unprecedented Opportunity



Agenda

Gift Process
Gift Types, Wealth and Duration
Organizational Relationship
Donor Motivation
Enablers Barriers
Gift Disclosure
Stewardship
Implications

Gift Process

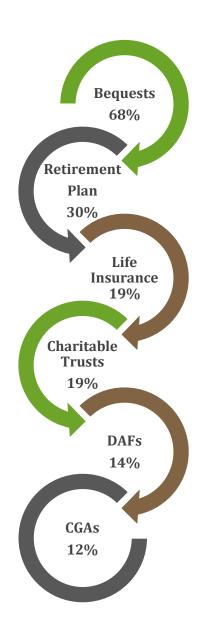


This may indicate that **gift officers and advisors** are
doing a better job of talking
with donors about legacy gifts.

Respondents who ranked process difficult reported challenges balancing heirs' needs **AND** desire to help charities.

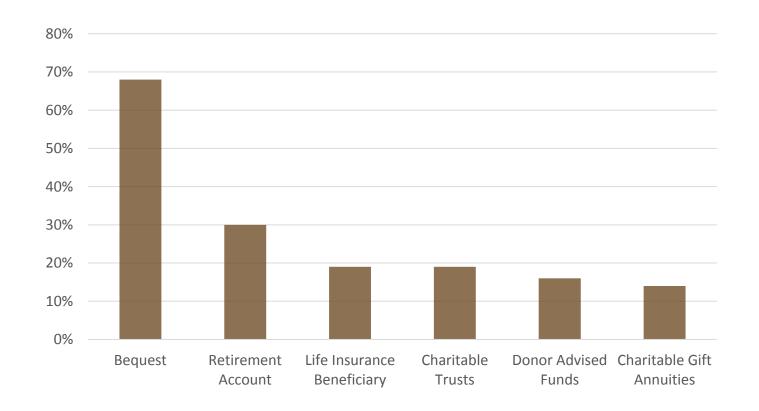
Gift Types

Half of all respondents reported their largest gift a specific percentage of estate rather than a specific amount.



Did you notice that the percentage of respondents whose gifts were bequests equaled the number who reported the planned giving process "easy or somewhat easy?"

Gift Types and Wealth



54% of respondents indicated that their largest planned gift was a bequest.

Donors who fund **charitable trust** make the largest gifts by value and are associated with greater wealth.

Wealth was related to types of legacy gifts donors made to organizations. Donors with net assets of \$1-\$10M were likely to have charitable bequests in wills versus charitable trusts. Donors with net assets greater than \$10M were more likely to have funded a charitable trust.

All charitable trusts in study were current trusts.

The **majority** of donors who funded CRTs reported that they decided on a charitable trust **ONLY AFTER** consideration of other gift vehicles.

Gift Duration

54%

of respondents reported that largest planned gift was a bequest.

50% of donors had not altered their planned gifts. **44%** of those who made changes increased the number of gifts in their estate plan while **45%** increased their gift amount.

Mean values excluded **top 3%** of reported gifts in each gift type.

Bequest Mean \$511,874

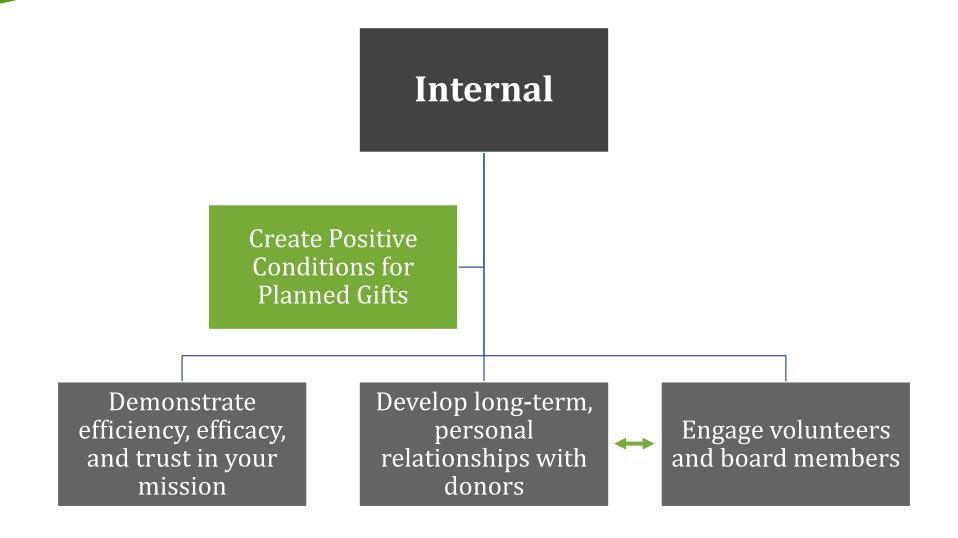
Charitable Trust Mean \$2,030,548

CGA Mean \$222,552

Retirement Plan Beneficiary Mean \$635,774

Insurance Policy Beneficiary Mean \$299,028 Retained Life Estate Mean \$557,773

Organizational Relationship



Individual Factors That Motivate Donors

No heirs

Personal value of generosity and history of philanthropy

Enough wealth to support heirs and nonprofit institutions

Donors with children are more motivated to make legacy gifts by: an institution's impact on those served, long-range estate planning considerations, relationship with a nonprofit representative, encouragement from advisors(s), cause of nonprofit personally important to them.

My colleagues and I have observed that donors with financially mature or comfortable heirs comprise the majority of documented estate gifts facilitated for clients – reduces parents' feeling of obligation to leave all assets to heirs.

Individual Factors That Motivate Donors

Some donors expressed concern about creating "trust fund children" by leaving them too large of an inheritance.

The question

"How much is enough or too much for our heirs?" is personal, and the answer is determined by several factors considered by each donor.



Donors want **assurance** that your organization will exist for a **significant** amount of time after their death. Afterall, planned giving donors are elevating your organization's status to a **family member**.

Donors' **trust** in recipient organizations was built **over time** through annual giving, volunteer service, or board service.

Volunteer experiences may include mentoring students, hospital auxiliary, fostering animals, serving as a docent, fundraising, committee or board service, to name a few.



"One of the most **important factors** to look for in new legacy bequests is **long-term loyalty** to the organization that is **anchored in memories** and our ability to connect with members in a **meaningful** way."

Leadership

"We never dreamed that we were going to create what we did – we just hoped we could finish it. That reminds me of when **Yo - Yo Ma** was here and he had students play with him right on stage and the **students were in such awe**. That is a legacy - a sense of awe that this has happened and that **we were part of it.**"

Legacy Donor

At the heart of what the *organization* does for our donors and for the community is to create **Memorable Moments**. Memorable Moments are **imprints** that are dynamic and layered, building up to **transformative experiences**.

Leadership

Barriers to Planned Giving

Internal to Organization

- Lack of personal and consistent contact with donors
- Mission drift or change

Barriers to Planned Giving

Internal to Organization

- Lack of personal and consistent contact with donors
- Mission drift or change

External to Organization

- Concerns about late-life health care costs
- Concerns about impact of relatively small gifts.



Relationship-building is **THE**

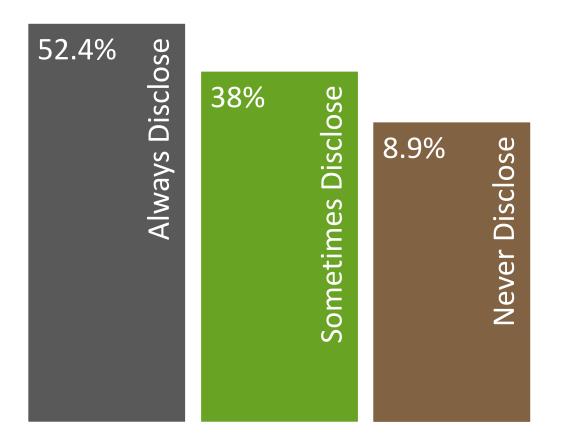
core competency in planned gift fundraising.

Gift Disclosure

86.6% of donors informed organizations that would receive largest planned gifts.

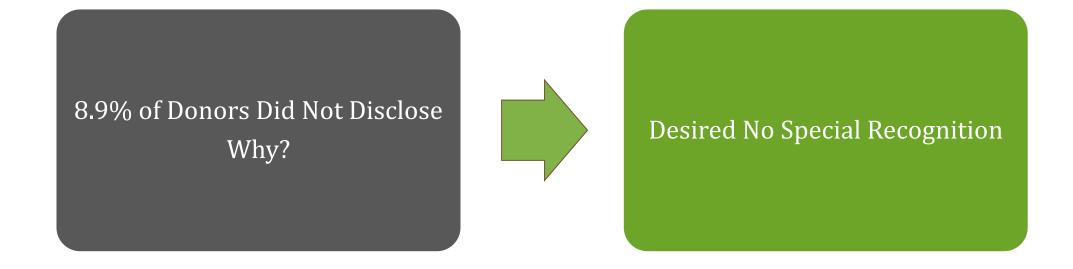
Donors aged 60-69 and those WITH children were slightly more likely to disclose their planned gifts.

70% of donors told recipient organizations voluntarily.



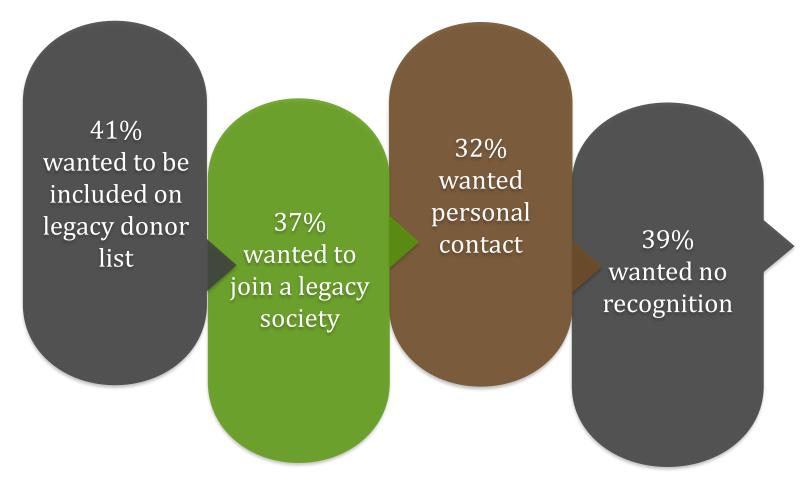
"People love to share **good stories** because it makes them feel good. It underscores making a **good choice**, and that that choice made it through their **high standards**. When they share, it strengthens their **bond** with other people."

8.9% of Donors Did Not Disclose Why?





Planned Gift Stewardship



Ask each donor's recognition preference(s) and customize accordingly.

Planned Gift Stewardship

It is **important to donors** to have a **designated person** from an organization who contacts them periodically – once or twice per year – and to whom they can ask questions.

16% of donors said that membership in a legacy society motivated them to increase or plan to increase their legacy gift.

Stewardship Communication Expectation



Demonstrate gift's impact on organization



Evidence organization is making a difference



Appropriate level of personalization



Relevancy to area of support

Report's Implications

Recommendations



Identifying High-Likelihood Legacy Giving Prospects



Marketing Legacy Gifts and Motivating Donors



Stewarding and Retaining Current Legacy Donors

High-Likelihood Legacy Gift Prospects

Donors whom we **traditionally expect** to be best planned giving prospects were confirmed in the report. However...



High-Likelihood Legacy Gift Prospects

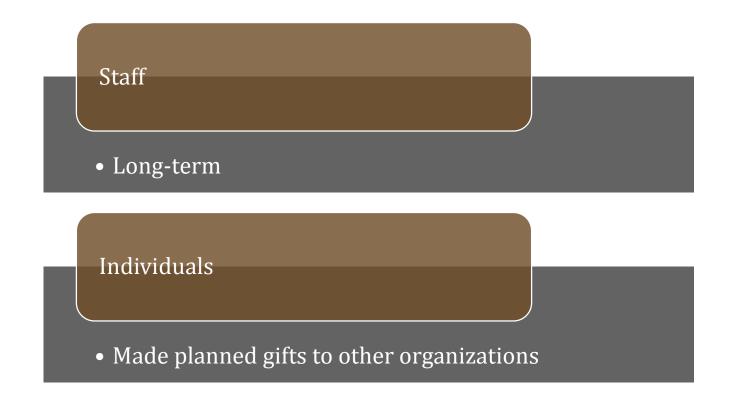
Couples with **financially mature** and/or successful children feel less pressure to leave all assets to heirs.

My colleagues and I have found this factor ranks **very high** for donors who **disclose and document legacy gifts** with clients.



High-Likelihood Legacy Gift Prospects

Individuals who have made legacy gifts to other institutions indicate the importance of personal philanthropy and a desire to have a meaningful impact on society. These donors must also show high affinity for your organization.



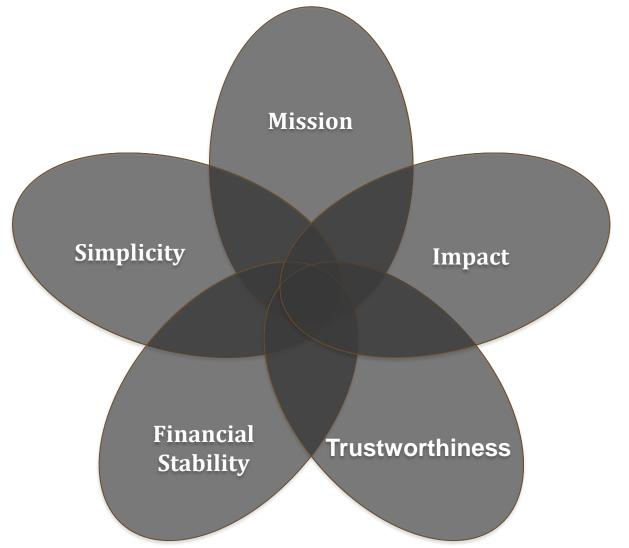
Marketing and Motivating Donors

While more advisors discuss philanthropy with clients, particularly financial advisors, a plurality of donors reported that they learned about planned giving from nonprofit organizations.



Marketing and Motivating Donors

Demonstrate your organization's impact through story and data. How is your organization making a difference in individuals served by your mission?

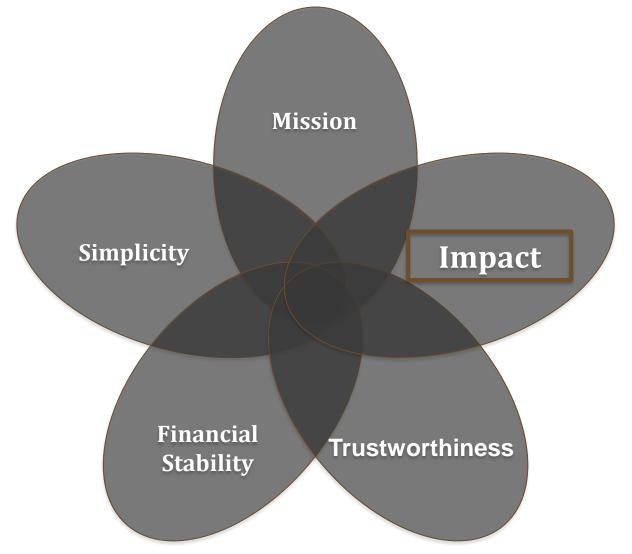


Highlight relative simplicity to make a planned gift via a bequest, life insurance, and a retirement plan beneficiary.

Marketing and Motivating Donors

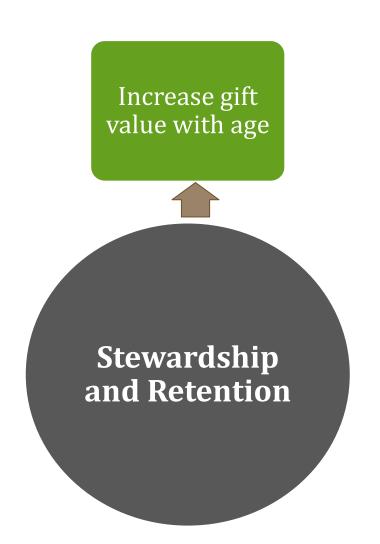
"Legacy donors

want to align with an organization that facilitates their ability to have an impact."



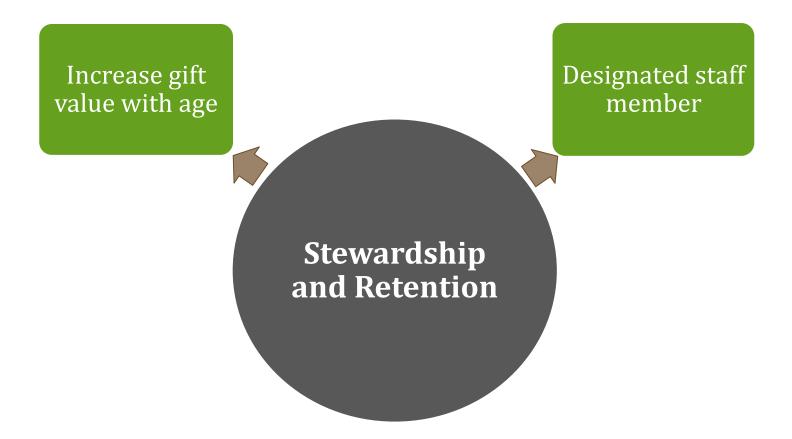
"It is very important to our legacy donors that the organization make it possible for them to facilitate change in the community."

Assets often increase as donors age, they know more about their **heirs'** financial maturity – or lack thereof – and their **affinity** may grow for your organization over time.

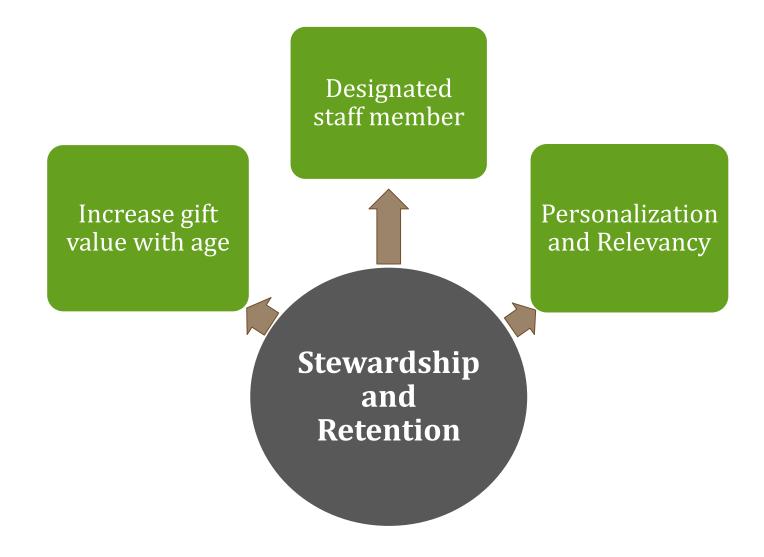


When planned giving director is not the relationship manager for a legacy donor, then be sure to invite the director to appropriate events and stewardship meetings.

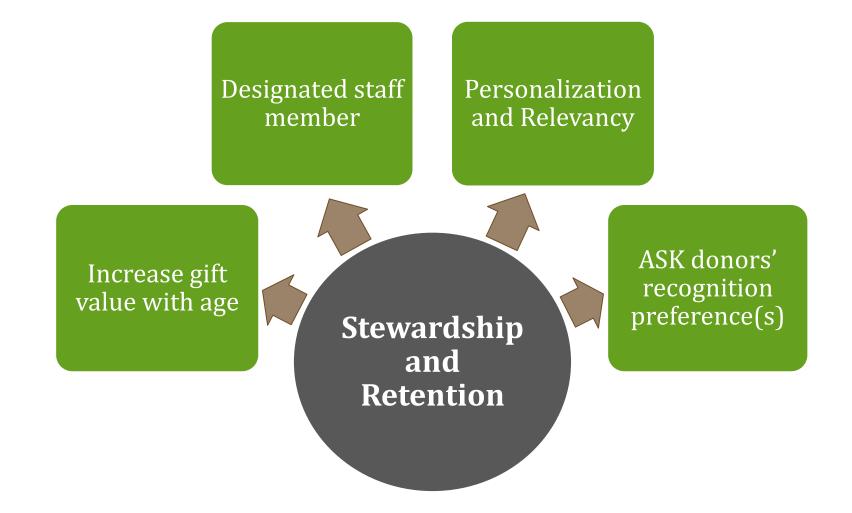
Partner with planned giving directors and allow them to be your guide.



Create ongoing personalization and communication with legacy donors – cards, letters, holiday cards, legacy event follow-up protocol. Host educational events tailored to donors' **interests**, teachable moments subsequent to changes in tax law. Invite donors to speak at legacy events.



Ask donors their preference(s) for recognition. Gift disclosures help organizations facilitate more planned gifts. However, gift officer must respect donors who want anonymity.







Purchase Giving USA Foundation's **Leaving a Legacy** report via the following link:

https://store.givingusa.org/collections/special-reports-spotlights

Additional Questions

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Webinar Resources

Recording Presentation handouts

www.stelter.com/webinars



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Thank You!

