

DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS

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What is a donor-advised fund?

A donor-advised fund is a tool to help you carry out your charitable giving efficiently and effectively. Because your fund is a part of BCF, all gifts to your fund enjoy a favorable tax status as compared with gifts to a private foundation.

CONTACT US

To learn more about donor-advised funds and other options for giving through BCF, contact Philanthropic Services at (410) 332-4171.



If you've ever wondered whether there was an easy way to make your charitable giving both simpler and more rewarding, a donor-advised fund at the Baltimore Community Foundation could be what you've been looking for.

Ten Good Reasons to Open a BCF Donor-Advised Fund:

- 1. Flexibility** – make gifts to your fund at any time and recommend distributions to charities throughout the year.
- 2. End of year taxable events** – when you need a charitable deduction immediately but want time to reflect on which charities to support.
- 3. Less paperwork** – turn over record-keeping and paperwork to BCF. For taxes, you only need to document your gifts to BCF.
- 4. Personal service** – our professional staff is knowledgeable about non-profits in Baltimore and can provide expert help in all aspects of philanthropic planning.
- 5. Corporate giving programs** – add to the fund in profitable times; maintain a steady stream of contributions to charities year after year.

6. Family foundations – meet the 5% payout requirement with a gift to your donor-advised fund; let us do the paperwork for grants from the fund.

7. Recognition or anonymity – according to your preference.

8. Tax benefits exceeding those for a private foundation.

9. Involve multiple generations in giving and teach your philanthropic values.

10. Opportunities to connect with other donors, learn about organizations doing excellent work and to be part of a positive change for Baltimore.

WHAT OUR DONORS ARE SAYING



"I was very impressed with how well BCF worked with my existing team of advisors"

– Dick McCready

"We don't have a long legacy of giving, and we weren't sure how to start."



– Stephanie and Erwin Greenberg



"BCF keeps me informed throughout the year of nice giving opportunities."

– Ann Fulwiler

DONOR-ADVISED FUND FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

A donor-advised fund is:

- Easy to set up, with a gift of \$10,000 or more to BCF and a simple fund agreement (funds at BCF range from \$10k to \$20M)
- Accessible, with 24/7 online access to recommend a grant, check fund balance or history, plus detailed quarterly statements by mail or e-mail
- Able to accept a variety of assets including cash, securities, real property, etc.
- Useful for carrying out your giving in Baltimore and beyond

What does it take to start a donor-advised fund?

A simple fund agreement and initial gift of as little as \$10,000 can start the fund.

How much does it cost?

There is no cost associated with establishing a fund. BCF's modest administrative fee is deducted quarterly. Investment fees are paid from the fund's principal.

How can I keep track of my fund once it's opened?

You will receive quarterly fund statements and have password-protected access to Donor Xpress, a secure area of BCF's website.

On Donor Xpress you can check your fund's balance, review fund activity, and recommend grants online.

Who oversees investments?

BCF's volunteer Investment Committee, a group of highly qualified professionals, oversees investment of all funds that are managed by experts in the field and has established investment options from which donors may choose.

What do I do when I want to recommend grants? Are there rules about who can receive a grant?

You can recommend grants online, using Donor Xpress. You can also fax or mail us a completed grant recommendation form.

BCF can approve grants to organizations recognized as public charities by the IRS, and yes, you can recommend grants to organizations outside of Baltimore.

A donor-advised fund may not make grants to individuals, so if you are interested in funding scholarships, please ask us for separate information on our scholarship program.

Can others make grant recommendations, too? And what happens to the fund after my death?

You may name a relative or friend to join you in making grant recommendations during your lifetime, and you may plan for succeeding generations to continue grant recommendations. When there are no remaining fund advisors, the assets of the fund may be allocated for the general grantmaking of BCF, or for an issue you're particularly concerned about, according to your wishes as stated in your fund agreement.