Charitable Funds a Great Last Minute Tax Solution

The Foundation offers a simple solution to take the pressure off year-end giving and related tax conundrums. Opening your own fee-free, named Donor Advised Fund (DAF) before December 31 takes just a few minutes and ensures your current year tax deduction along with all the time you need to decide how to make your resulting donations. Because DAFs have no distribution requirements, they allow you to time contributions for maximum tax advantage and develop philanthropic plans on your own timetable.

If the barrage of donations to our existing member charitable funds each December is any indication, this flexibility is needed and very much appreciated well after the fund is established!

While the benefits of DAFs are many, the flexibility and immediacy are particularly relevant at this time of the year. Whenever and wherever you eventually make your charitable donations (gifts can go anywhere in the nation), we’ll do the work and you’ll get the credit and consolidated statements of all your giving. Thanks to our Administrative Fund, the Foundation is exceptional among community foundations and commercial providers in offering DAFs at no cost as a service to the community. A DAF can be opened with as little as $10,000 and smaller funds have no fees and no risk exposure.

We’ve also just expanded and improved our Investment Options. Invested Funds are managed by WaterOak Advisors, overseen by the Foundation Investment Committee, and benefit from substantially reduced management fees calculated based on the balance of the whole of the Foundation’s investments (currently just 29 basis points). All funds that maintain a minimum balance of $50,000+ are eligible to be invested in the same diversified portfolio as the Foundation’s own assets. Funds over $100,000 now have a choice of two additional options, one more conservative and one more aggressive. ORCF Funds over $1 million are eligible for a custom portfolio and rates.

To open your fund and get your 2018 tax deduction, just drop off, transfer or postmark your donation by December 31. We can even take care of the very simple agreement naming your fund next year. To learn more, stop by our office on the first floor of the Ocean Reef Business Center, visit www.orfound.org, email foundation@oceanreef.com or call 305-367-4707.

The Foundation awarded grants to local charity partner Start Off Smart for a number of projects this year, including a gardening project in coordination with Homestead Police Department PAL Youth Directors at Homestead Middle School. The community garden got off to a great start bringing agriculture into the entrepreneurship program at the school this month when they cleared the land and set up the garden. According to SOS Executive Director Sandi Nanni, “The Homestead Police Athletic League has engaged 50 Youth Directors to participate in the planning, design, planting, and harvesting of a Community Garden Business Project. The Homestead Middle School agricultural program and local farmers will participate and contribute expertise. The youth are working with them and agricultural businesses on the budgeting, marketing and sustainability of the project. We are grateful to the Ocean Reef Community for believing in our youth and providing them the opportunity to actively participate in this business and STEM endeavor.”