



The **Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Council of Los Angeles** provides services for children, the homeless and the poor within the counties of Los Angeles, Ventura and Santa Barbara free of charge regardless of religion, race, gender, sexual orientation handicap or national origin. These programs include the operations of St. Vincent's Cardinal Manning Center, Circle V Ranch Camp, St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store (which also distributes clothes, furniture and appliances free of charge to the needy), a winter shelter in Ventura County, and more than 100 community-based conferences of lay volunteers that have furnished direct services and referrals to poor individuals and families throughout the above mentioned counties since 1908.



The Society strongly urges that all prospective donors of a planned gift seek the advice of their own attorney in reviewing the State and Federal Income Tax consequences of their gift, terms of any trust or annuity agreement and the advisability of the gift in light of the donor's overall estate plan and financial circumstances.

PLANNED GIVING

INVESTING IN
YOURSELF, YOUR
FAMILY &
YOUR COMMUNITY

GET IN TOUCH

**Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Council of Los Angeles**

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YOUR WILL CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE . . .

The majority of Americans die without a will, leaving their estates to be distributed according to a legislative formula determined by the state government.

Planned Giving is an aspect of estate planning that takes advantage of tax laws for charitable gifts in your favor, whether it is an immediate gift of cash or a future gift through a charitable annuity or bequest.

With proper planning, you can make wonderful gifts that will help the Society for generations to come, while maintaining or even improving your financial status.



WHAT ARE YOUR OPTIONS?

WILLS & LIVING TRUSTS

A will or living trust lets you provide for your family after your death, with the major difference between a will and a living trust being that the trust assets will avoid probate.

Wills and trusts are fully revocable so that you can terminate them at any time, and donations made to charities, such as the Society, are deducted from the value of the total estate for purposes of determining estate taxes. This allows you to provide support for the Society, while at the same time enabling you to reduce the rate at which your loved ones are taxed.

RETIREMENT PLAN ASSETS

Retirement plan assets may be subject to double taxation upon your death by being assessed as much as 55 percent for estate tax purposes with the balance being prone to income taxes. Naming the Society as a beneficiary of your retirement plan will give your loved ones an estate tax charitable deduction, as well as avoid the imposition of any income tax.

LIFE INSURANCE POLICIES

Many Americans today have paid-up life insurance policies that are no longer needed. A gift of this policy to the Society would assure the future growth of the Society, provide you with an income tax deduction, and remove this asset from your estate, thus furnishing you with a reduction in your estate taxes. In addition, you might purchase a new life insurance policy, pay the modest annual premiums for several years, and make a significant gift to the Society by naming it as the beneficiary or contingent beneficiary.

CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUSTS

This form of trust allows you to obtain an income for life, while receiving a tax deduction and helping the programs and services of the Society at the same time. Setting up a charitable remainder trust permits the donor to receive a fixed or variable yearly income for life, a healthy tax deduction, and a reduction in estate taxes for the donor's family upon his or her death, with the remainder of the fund benefiting the programs and services of the Society.

CHARITABLE LEAD TRUSTS

This form of trust is a way to pass assets on to your family with a significant estate and gift tax savings, while at the same time making a gift to the Society. Assets that produce income are transferred to a trust for a fixed number of years. The Society receives an annual income for that period, after which the principal is returned to your family with estate or gift taxes reduced or eliminated. A charitable lead trust may be particularly appealing if you are the owner of a family business or you are willing to forgo investment income for a specific number of years, with the assets returning to your heirs at a future time.

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES

A charitable gift annuity is a simple contract between the donor, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and the annuity agency. In exchange for a gift of assets, typically cash or stock, the donor will receive an annual payment of an amount based on the donor's age and the value of the gift. For example, an 80-year old donor, at current rates, would receive an eight percent return on their donation annually. The donor also receives significant tax advantages, including an immediate charitable tax deduction, and a portion of each payment is considered a tax-free return of principal to the donor. The annual pay out would occur through the donor's lifetime, and after the donor's death, the remainder of the annuity will be placed in a restricted fund at the annuity agency for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

GIFTS OF STOCK

Gifts of appreciated stock or other securities owned for more than a year afford the benefit of a full-market value donation to the Society while you avoid the onerous capital gains tax and obtain a charitable deduction on your current federal and state income tax. Or if your stock has decreased in value, you should consider selling it first and then contributing the proceeds to the Society, which allows you to receive a tax deduction for both the capital loss and the charitable gift.