Sample Bequest Language

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Introduction

Many of our funds were created through bequests from people like you. The following sample bequest language is provided to assist you and your legal advisors in defining your bequest. It is not intended to take the place of legal advice. Please consult with your attorney to answer any legal questions. Contact us for a list of attorneys with whom we have worked in the past.

You may direct a bequest to support an area of interest (i.e., literacy, the arts, children), a scholarship, or a specific organization or organizations. You may also leave the decision to us with an unrestricted gift. Gifts of any amount may be added to existing funds. A new fund can be established with a minimum gift of $5,000. We encourage you to discuss the details of your bequest with us to ensure that we can comply with your wishes.

Alternative Bequests

An alternative to a bequest from your estate is a gift from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA). You can name the Foundation as a beneficiary of all or just part of your IRA. The gift will be made shortly after your death, avoiding the probate process that is required of the rest of your estate.

This information is provided to assist you and your legal, accounting and financial advisors in defining the details of your charitable giving. It is not intended to take the place of legal, accounting or tax advice. Please consult with your attorney, accountant and/or financial advisor to answer any financial or legal questions.
Bequest to an Existing Fund

The community foundation manages more than 100 funds, which benefit more than 100 different organizations, scholarships and charitable purposes. Use the paragraph below to direct a bequest to a fund currently in existence. A complete list of funds can be obtained from our web site at www.crawfordheritage.org or by calling us at 814-336-5206.

I give, devise and bequeath [Describe dollar amount, property to be given, or proportion of your residuary estate] to the Crawford Heritage Community Foundation, EIN #25-1813245, a not-for-profit corporation located in Meadville, Pennsylvania, 16335, to be added to the [insert name of fund currently managed by the community foundation] Fund, a component fund of the Crawford Heritage Community Foundation, and I direct that this bequest become part of this Fund.

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Unrestricted Bequest

Use the paragraph below to direct a bequest that will allow the community foundation the discretion to make grants to meet the community’s changing opportunities and needs.

I give, devise and bequeath ___________________________________________________________________________________

[Describe dollar amount, property to be given, or proportion of your residuary estate] to the Crawford Heritage Community Foundation, EIN #25-1813245, a not-for-profit corporation located in Meadville, Pennsylvania, 16335, for its general charitable purposes.

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Bequest to Create an Area of Interest Discretionary Fund

The paragraph below should be used when establishing a *Area of Interest Fund.*

A donor who wishes to specify that distributions from their fund be used for the benefit of a specific area of interest (i.e., literacy, the arts, children) should establish an Area of Interest Fund. Grants are made at the discretion of the community foundation to programs addressing the defined area of interest.

I give, devise and bequeath  

[Describe dollar amount, property to be given, or proportion of your residuary estate]  

to the Crawford Heritage Community Foundation, EIN #25-1813245, a not-for-profit corporation located in Meadville, Pennsylvania, 16335, to establish the ________________________________ Fund, a component fund from which grants are to be made preferably for the following purpose:______________________________

[Describe the area of interest you would like to support. For example, to promote literacy, the arts, programs for children or health and wellness.]

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Bequest to Create a Donor Designated Fund

The paragraph below should be used when establishing a Donor Designated Fund.

A donor who wishes to specify that distributions from their fund be used to benefit one or more specific public charities should establish a Donor Designated Fund.

I give, devise and bequeath [Describe dollar amount, property to be given, or proportion of your residuary estate] to the Crawford Heritage Community Foundation, EIN #25-1813245, a not-for-profit corporation located in Meadville, Pennsylvania, 16335, to establish the [Describe fund] Fund, a component fund from which grants are to be made to the following organization(s): [List the names of the organizations you would like to support. Designate what percentage of the annual distribution should go to each organization. It is helpful to include the address and Employer Identification Number (EIN) for each organization. We are happy to research this information on your behalf.]

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Bequest to Create a Scholarship Fund

The paragraph below should be used when establishing a Scholarship Fund. A scholarship is an award of financial aid for a student to further his or her education. Scholars are selected based upon criteria, which reflect the values and purposes defined by the fund's donor. The community foundation pays scholarships directly to the student’s educational institution to be credited to their account.

I give, devise and bequeath [Describe dollar amount, property to be given, or proportion of your residuary estate] to the Crawford Heritage Community Foundation, EIN #25-1813245, a not-for-profit corporation located in Meadville, Pennsylvania, 16335, to establish the [Fund], a component fund from which scholarships are to be provided to students for [describe purpose] selected using the following criteria: [Describe scholarship purpose and selection criteria in detail. Refer to the Foundation’s Scholarship Criteria Questionnaire to assist you in determining your criteria.]

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Bequest to Create a Named Unrestricted Fund

The paragraph below should be used when establishing an *Unrestricted Fund* which is to be named in honor or memory of a person or family. An Unrestricted Fund is held by the community foundation for use without restriction. Donors allow the community foundation the discretion to make grants to meet the community’s changing opportunities and needs.

I give, devise and bequeath ________________________________

[Describe dollar amount, property to be given, or proportion of your residuary estate] to the Crawford Heritage Community Foundation (the Foundation), EIN #25-1813245, a not-for-profit corporation located in Meadville, Pennsylvania, 16335, to establish the ________________________________ Fund, to be held as a component fund and managed together with the Foundation’s other endowed funds. Grants from the Fund shall be made in accordance with the Foundation’s policies for such funds, and shall be used for unrestricted purposes.

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