



Unique Ways to Give

There are a multitude of options for donors, in addition to cash, which make excellent charitable gifts.

Livestock and grain. Stocks. IRA distributions. Corporate matching gifts. Real estate. And, of course, cash. If you want to create a fund at Marion Community Foundation, we can help you - no matter how unique the gift.

The word "philanthropy" usually brings to mind the notion of giving money; but, cash, while easy, is far from the only way to reach your planned giving goals. At Marion Community Foundation, our professional staff and financial advisors can help you make arrangements for a wide variety of gifts.

Cash Gifts

Yes, cash is still accepted — as are checks and credit cards. Gifts can be mailed in, dropped off at our lovely home inside the historic Stengel-True Museum, or made electronically via the secure, online credit card portal on our website at MarionCommunityFoundation.org.

IRA Gifts

Donors 70-1/2 or older, can have their annual required minimum distributions (RMD) from traditional IRAs sent directly to Marion Community Foundation. Although these direct IRA distribution gifts are not deductible on a tax return, by having them donated directly to the Foundation, they will not be counted as income for tax purposes. This is an especially good gift to consider for those who don't itemize tax deductions. We will work with your plan administrator to help you accomplish this gift.

Long-Term Appreciated Stock Gifts

Giving stock is really easier than one might think and it gives a double tax break to the donor — no capital gains tax on the appreciation *and* a deduction for the entire gift. We will work with your financial advisor to help select stock(s) that will provide the most benefit and help you through the simple gifting process.

Real Estate Gifts

Like appreciated stock, the gift of appreciated real estate avoids the capital gains tax and provides a charitable deduction for the full fair market value of the real estate.

Gifts of Poorly Performing Stock

Using stock that has decreased in value is also a good way to make a charitable gift. The donor can claim the capital loss on his or her tax return and get the charitable deduction for the cash gift.

Charitable Gift Annuities

Converting poorly income-producing assets into a Charitable Gift Annuity is a way to both create an improved income stream and a charitable gift. A CGA provides a set and steady income throughout the donor's lifetime; then, the remaining principal becomes a charitable endowment fund permanently supporting community causes of the donor's choosing.



Life Insurance Gifts

Individuals with a life insurance policy they no longer need, might consider naming Marion Community Foundation as the owner and beneficiary of the policy. By doing so, they receive a charitable deduction for the cash value or the adjusted basis. Premium payments can also be deducted as a charitable gift. A new policy naming us as beneficiary guarantees us a future gift as well. Many other options regarding life insurance are available. We will work with your insurance agent to easily accomplish this gift.

Life Income Gifts

These are a little more complicated, so you may have to call us, but basically a Charitable Remainder Trust allows the transfer assets now to Marion Community Foundation while the individual continues to receive income from those assets. This type of gift is a good fit for people who hold assets that would make beautiful gifts at some time in the future, but currently need those assets for income. A Charitable Remainder Trust can increase income for life, give a generous charitable contribution for the year of the gift, and, if the gift is stock, avoid capital gains taxes. Another option is a Charitable Lead Trust. These help reduce income for those in high tax brackets. In this situation, the individual keeps the asset but directs the income to Marion Community Foundation.

Agricultural Gifts

Yes, we can even accept gifts of livestock and grain. Contact us for more information.

Wills & Trusts

Donors who are not quite ready to make a gift at this time, but want to establish a legacy to the Marion community, can easily make Marion Community Foundation the beneficiary of a will, trust, TOD, or POD designations. Options include designating a fixed dollar amount of the gift or a percentage of an estate. Either way, we will work with your attorney and financial planner to ensure this is an easy process and that the correct language is used in estate planning documents to create the gift.

Recurring Automatic Donations

Marion Community Foundation offers an automatic monthly payment option. This is for the donor who wants to give regularly and/or spread out charitable gifts throughout the year. Authorization forms are available upon request and allow you to set up an automatic transfer from your bank account directly to a charitable fund at Marion Community Foundation.

Corporate Matching Gifts

A number of employers in the Marion area (and elsewhere) encourage their employees' philanthropy by offering a corporate match for donations made to charity. Two of the largest in Marion are Whirlpool Corp. and Verizon. Individuals can establish funds at Marion Community Foundation and apply to their corporate matching gift program as a unique way to grow their fund.

An example of this is the Rick & Nancy Poorman Fund and the Poorman Palace Theatre Fund, established in 2015. Rick has made his career with Whirlpool Corp's Marion Division and, concurrent with creating his funds, applied to the appliance manufacturer's corporate matching gifts program. Whirlpool matched the Poorman's contributions to both funds, which not only doubled the size of the funds, but their potential community impact, as well.