

# Guide to Donor Advised Funds

## What is a Donor Advised Fund?

A Donor Advised Fund (DAF) is like a charitable savings account. A donor contributes to the fund as frequently as they like and their charitable investment grows tax-free. You can even contribute non-cash assets or shares of stock. You receive immediate tax benefits and can recommend grants to your favorite charity. Then, when you are ready to disburse your fund, simply notify the Catholic Community Foundation of which causes you would like to donate to.



## How to Establish a Donor Advised Fund

1. Contact the Catholic Community Foundation or your financial advisor to create the Donor Advised Fund agreement. Contact the Executive Director, Kristin Smith, at 989.303.9201 or at [kristin.smith@ccfmm.org](mailto:kristin.smith@ccfmm.org).
2. Select the name of the fund, the fund advisor(s), and the charitable beneficiaries who will receive money upon the fund's closing.
3. Make the initial minimum contribution to the fund in cash or stocks. You immediately receive the maximum tax deduction, and your contribution is invested and grows tax-free.

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## How to Make Grant Recommendations

Donors can recommend grants or gifts from a Donor Advised Fund at any time. Our donor portal allows you to make grant recommendations online. When you choose an organization or cause, the Catholic Community Foundation reviews each grant recommendation to ensure the beneficiary aligns with our shared Catholic values. The Catholic Community Foundation guides you through the grant recommendation process, and can advise you on how to amplify the impact of your gifts.

## Work with the Catholic Community Foundation

Working with the Catholic Community Foundation makes your contribution to your community simple yet effective. With a Donor Advised Fund, you decide how and when you want to give while the Catholic Community Foundation supports you. In fact, some of the benefits of working with the Catholic Community Foundation include:



**Managing all administrative responsibilities.** The Catholic Community Foundation manages all administrative responsibilities of a Donor Advised Fund. This gives you more time to focus on charitable giving, and, if you wish, the ability to remain anonymous. Donor Advised Funds managed by the Catholic Community Foundation also help you simplify your tax records.



**Giving according to your faith.** The Catholic Community Foundation adopts socially responsible investment principles designed by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.



**Connecting with a network of donors.** After establishing your fund, it can be made public so anyone can donate. A public fund grows with the support of others in your community.



**Receiving support and guidance.** The Catholic Community Foundation is available to address any questions or concerns, and offer guidance to help you make an impact.