PLANNING YOUR LEGACY

A guide to providing for your family and supporting the community you care about.
If you have this book in your hands, you may already be familiar with Nebraska Community Foundation and our work in over 250 hometowns across the state. Through a growing grassroots network of over 1,500 volunteers, we are unleashing abundant local assets, inspiring charitable giving and connecting ambitious people to build stronger communities and a Greater Nebraska.

We do this in lots of ways.

We provide training, support and resources in leadership development, fundraising and communications to our expansive volunteer network across the state. We offer top-notch financial management to hundreds of community-based affiliated funds, donor advised funds and organizational funds.

But perhaps one of the most important services we provide is helping generous Nebraskans (like you!) devise effective and impactful ways to give back to the charitable causes and hometowns they care about most.

Planning your legacy doesn’t have to be a choice between your family and favorite charities. We work with many, many Nebraskans who are treating their communities like another child as they plan their estates and document their charitable intentions. NCF works with professional advisors every day to make sure their clients’ charitable goals and desires are being met, exactly as they intended.

In addition to this wills guide, NCF provides an abundance of free online resources to help you make the most of your giving—that includes gift planning calculators and a weekly e-newsletter featuring the most up-to-date industry news, insights and trends. Visit nebcommfound.giftlegacy.com to learn more.

Our team is also available to assist you and your professional advisor as you make your plans for the future. Contact us by phone at 402.323.7330 or email at info@nebcommfound.org.

We applaud you for taking this important step to provide for the people, places and charitable causes you love and look forward to visiting with you about leaving a meaningful and lasting legacy.
# Table of Contents

**Introduction**
- Planning Your Legacy .......................................................... 4
- Estate Planning Documents .................................................. 6

**1. You and Your Family**
- Your Personal Information .................................................. 10
- Your Estate Planning Goals .................................................. 10
- Your Estate Planning Family Background .............................. 11
- Your Spouse’s Information .................................................. 11
- Your Religious Affiliation .................................................... 11
- Your Children’s Information .................................................. 12

**2. You and Your Contacts**
- Your Executor ........................................................................ 13
- Your Guardian ........................................................................ 14
- Power of Attorney for Finances ............................................. 14
- Power of Attorney for Healthcare .......................................... 15

**3. Estate Finances**
- Assets .................................................................................. 16
- Liabilities .............................................................................. 18

**4. Estate Plans**
- Choosing Your Estate Plan .................................................. 19
- The “Right Amount” Inheritance ............................................ 20
- Simple Will ........................................................................... 21
- Simple Will with Trust for Children ...................................... 22
- “Give It Twice” Trust ............................................................. 24

**5. Estate Planning Information**
- Personal Property Distribution .............................................. 26
- Sample Bequest Language .................................................... 27

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Disclosure on Attorneys and Nebraska Community Foundation

Thank you for completing this guide. It is offered by us to you as an educational service. While we attempt to provide helpful estate and financial background, we are not able to offer specific legal advice on your personal situation. Because you may have special needs, we know that you will want to contact your own attorney. He or she will be your independent advisor and will have an obligation of trust and confidence to you. With the advice of your independent attorney, you may have a customized estate plan that truly fulfills your unique family, healthcare, and estate planning circumstances.

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Planning Your Legacy

A guide to providing for your family and supporting the causes you care about.

We are very pleased that you are taking steps to protect those you love through an estate plan. A plan is important, but an estimated 60% of Americans don’t even have a will. This guide will help you by making the process easy and understandable.

A person may work 40 years to accumulate assets and spend 10 to 20 years conserving that accumulation, but often take two hours or less to plan for distribution of the assets. Through good planning, a wonderful chapter in the book of your life can be completed. However, too many times there has been little planning, or sometimes no planning, and the last chapter of life becomes burdensome for family members.

This guide is designed to help you move forward with a plan that writes a very important chapter in the book of your life. Through proper planning, the legacy of love and care that you leave for your family and friends can be encouraging and even inspiring. We will show you how to update your estate plan with a will and also make plans for your potential medical decisions.

Your planning guide is designed to encourage you to think about how you want your assets to be distributed when you pass away, and to assist you in gathering the information your attorney will need. With this guide, the process will be much easier, less expensive, and a comfort to your family and friends while fulfilling your desires.

What are the benefits of an estate plan?

**PEACE** — An estate plan should give you peace of mind—knowing that important, and sometimes difficult decisions have been made to care for you and your loved ones.

**PROVISION** — An estate plan is designed to help you provide for both you and your family. With a good estate plan, you can give loved ones the property you have acquired in the right way, at the right time and at minimal cost.

**PROTECTION** — A good estate plan will protect you in your senior years. It may be important to designate a specific person to manage your property, help doctors and other medical staff with important decisions, and make certain that you are receiving the best possible care. An estate plan can increase your lifetime security and also achieve your goals for family and charity.

How do I get started?

We have designed this planning guide for your benefit. Feel free to take the time to move through the different sections. You may, however, need to come back later and fill in more detailed information. Most of this information you will know or have readily available.
What if I have questions about some of the information?
When it comes time to decide on the distribution of your property, you may have some questions. There are two resources that will help you. In addition to the explanations within this guide, we have a wealth of online estate planning information on our website: nebcommfound.giftlegacy.com. You may also call us at 402.323.7330 or email info@nebcommfound.org for one-on-one assistance.

What good things happen with an updated will?
With an updated will, you can transfer specific property or assets. In addition, you will be able to direct the residue of your estate. For those with larger estates, there could be substantial estate tax savings. In addition, you know that the executor or personal representative you select (not the one a probate judge chooses) will be managing your property. A good will is able to carry out your plan and save thousands of dollars while transferring property quickly and inexpensively to your loved ones.

What is accidental disinheritance?
Too many times, the “wrong” person or persons end up receiving property. An “accidental disinheritance” occurs if you either have no will or the will doesn’t function properly. Sometimes a will is unclear and the estate goes to distant relatives or is simply paid to CPAs and attorneys who are representing family members fighting over the estate. You can avoid an “accidental disinheritance” by creating a good plan to protect your loved ones.

Can I use my estate plan to create a legacy?
Everyone wants to have a life with meaning. Part of that meaningful life is to live on in the memory of family and friends. A good estate plan can indeed create a legacy for family and charity that gives added meaning to your life.
There are four basic steps in the estate planning process.

1. Write down what you own.
   It is important to understand what property you own and what property will be transferred through your estate. You can use this wills guide to help you with this process.

2. Work with an attorney.
   There are many knowledgeable estate planning attorneys. You can bring this completed Wills guide to them so they can prepare the necessary estate planning documents. Feel free to ask the attorney questions and to talk about your goals.

3. Know how property is transferred.
   Some property is transferred by will and some is transferred by a beneficiary designation or other form. You need to know how your property will be transferred in order to avoid an accidental disinheritance. With a good plan, your property may be transferred as you desire. Your attorney can help you with this process.

4. Sign your will and medical directives.
   Finally, it is important to sign the documents that correctly express your will and desires, both for your property and for your potential future personal care.

Estate Planning Documents

Let’s start by reviewing the three basic estate planning documents—a will, a durable power of attorney for finances, and a durable power of attorney for healthcare.

**Current Will**
Your will is a written document, signed by you and by two or more witnesses. In some states, your signature must be witnessed by a notary public. If the will is authenticated by the probate court, it will be used to determine the distribution of your property. If the will is not valid or you do not have a will, the court will follow state law to distribute your assets and appoint guardians for minor children. Many of the court’s decisions may be contrary to your desires.

With a valid will, you are able to choose who will inherit your property and who will administer your estate as executor or personal representative. If you have minor children, you can choose a person to raise your children. With a trust, you are permitted to decide who will manage the trust for family members.

A valid will is an essential part of transferring your property at the right time to the right people at the lowest cost. Without a valid will, your family may encounter increased costs, delays and unnecessary conflicts. You can provide a wonderful legacy for family with an updated will and a sound estate plan.
Durable Power of Attorney for Finances
You probably are a very good financial manager. As long as you are able to manage your affairs, things will be fine. However, there may come a time when you are in poor health or perhaps in the hospital. During these times, you will not want to worry about your property being neglected or bills going unpaid.

A durable power of attorney for finances is the solution to protect your property and yourself. If you are no longer able to manage your property, you can use a durable power of attorney to select someone to act as your agent. If you are disabled or incapacitated, this person will have the legal right to manage your property. If you do not have a durable power of attorney for finances, the court may decide to appoint a conservator to manage your affairs.

The court may select any person as conservator and there often will be expensive reports, audits and costs in the management of your property. If you sign a durable power of attorney for finances, the person that you select may manage your property without the added expense of a court-appointed conservator.

Healthcare Directives
There are two general types of healthcare directives—a durable power of attorney for healthcare and a living will. In some states, they are combined into one document called an advance directive.

The durable power of attorney for healthcare allows you to select a person who can assist your doctors in making healthcare decisions while you may be incapacitated. You may have a serious medical condition and the doctor will need the advice of another person regarding the best possible care for you. Your designated holder of the durable power of attorney for healthcare can help the doctors ensure that you have high-quality care.

The living will is a second document (in most states) and covers the time before you pass away. In the last days and weeks of life, there are a number of decisions regarding care, nutrition, hydration and resuscitation that need to be made. The living will gives you the opportunity to offer recommendations to medical staff about the types of care to be provided to you at that time.
PLANNING YOUR LEGACY

Living Trusts
If you have a moderate or large estate, you may find it desirable to create a living trust. The living trust is completely within your control during your lifetime. You can add property to the trust or remove property from the trust at any time. During your lifetime, the trust income is taxable to you.

There are at least three major benefits of the living trust. If you are sick or in the hospital, your designated successor trustee can take over and manage your property for your benefit. Second, if you pass away, the property in the living trust will avoid probate and potentially save thousands of dollars in costs. Third, the living trust typically is a private document and is not made public during the probate process.

Custom Estate Plan for Business, Investments or Child with Special Needs
If you own a family business, substantial real estate holdings or a large estate, then a custom plan that considers your special property goals and requirements should be created. Another custom plan option is important if you have a child with special needs. A child with special needs may be provided for through a special needs trust. A special needs trust will facilitate care of the child by providing resources and directions. In some cases, a child with special needs may qualify to receive federal or state benefits.

IRA, 401(k) or Other Retirement Plan
Your IRA, 401(k) or other retirement plan is transferred by a beneficiary designation. Normally, the beneficiaries should be named on the IRA, and it should be given directly to family or charity, and not to your estate. The IRA or 401(k) custodian should provide a form for you to select a primary and contingent beneficiary. Because your retirement plan may represent a major portion of your property (30% to 70%), your beneficiary designation should be reviewed every two to four years.

Life Insurance
Life insurance is usually permanent (whole life or universal life) or term. The insurance policy is a contract, and there is a beneficiary designation form. You will select the primary and contingent beneficiary to receive the life insurance proceeds if you pass away with a valid insurance policy.

Charitable Remainder Trusts
A charitable remainder trust is an excellent way to benefit you, your spouse or other family members. It combines substantial tax savings with the ability to produce a very good income for you or your family members. Charitable remainder trusts are especially helpful for individuals who retire and would like to sell land or stock tax free and receive a generous income.
Charitable Gift Annuity
Many of our friends, especially those age 70 and above, are interested in fixed payments from a charitable gift annuity. If you fund a gift annuity, you receive a substantial income tax charitable deduction and fixed payments for life. A gift annuity may pay for one or two lives. For a married couple, the payments will last until both individuals have passed away.

Donor Advised Funds
Many families find that a Donor Advised Fund (DAF) is a simple and efficient way to help charities that they love. By establishing such a fund, you can time the gifts you make (for investment or tax reasons) and you can select the charities you wish to benefit from your gifts. You receive the income or estate tax deduction, and the opportunity to make distribution decisions later. Many families may use a Donor Advised Fund (DAF) as an estate beneficiary so that they can allow their children or friends to continue supervising the gifts from their fund for years to come. Many parents appreciate the way their DAF encourages children to be involved in philanthropy.

Charitable Endowments
Another option that you may prefer is to leave property or money in an endowment so that the charity does not spend the principal. Instead, the charity spends a portion of the investment earnings each year. Endowments may be left to community or religious foundations or often directly to the charity with instructions for their use. It is often helpful to suggest a general purpose for the endowment fund because it will last perpetually, and the original purpose for the gift may one day not exist. If you are interested in an endowment approach to your charitable gifts, please contact us at 402.323.7330.
1. You and Your Family

Please tell us about you and your family. Print names in ink, not pencil. Spell names exactly as you want them to appear in your estate documents. Use full legal names, not nicknames.

YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION

Date ____________________________________________

Your Full Legal Name

Date of Birth _____________________________ Gender □ Male □ Female

Present marital status:
□ Married  □ Single  □ Divorced  □ Legally Separated  □ Widowed

If you are widowed, what date did this occur? _________________________________________________

Home Address ________________________________________________________________

City _____________________________ State _______ Zip ______________

Home Phone/Email ________________________________________________________________

Employer ____________________________________________________________

Job Title _____________________________ Work Phone _____________________________

Are you a U.S. Citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident?
□ No  □ Born in the U.S. □ Naturalized  □ LPR

Check which documents you presently have: □ Will □ Living Will □ Living Trust
□ Durable Power of Attorney/Healthcare □ Durable Power of Attorney/Finances

Your Estate Planning Goals

You will have a number of goals that can be carried out through your estate plan. Listed below are several types of goals. Please indicate how important these goals are by circling a number from one to five by each goal. One is “not at all important” and five is “very important.”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Not at all important</th>
<th>Very important</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reduce estate taxes</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase current income</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide for guardianship of minors</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide for healthcare if disabled</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protect against liability</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Create a charitable legacy</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sell appreciated assets tax free</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plan for business</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other goals</td>
<td>1 2 3 4 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Your Estate Planning Family Background

1. LIFETIME GIFTS. You may have made gifts to children or other heirs.

2. TRUSTEE, GUARDIAN OR EXECUTOR. Are you currently serving?  □ Yes  □ No

3. INHERITANCE. Is it likely that you may receive an inheritance?  □ Yes  □ No

4. SAFE DEPOSIT BOX. List the bank, city, state, and who has the key.

----------------------------------------------

YOUR SPOUSE’S INFORMATION

Spouse’s Full Legal Name___________________________________________________________

Date of Birth________________________________________ Gender □ Male □ Female

Have you previously been married?  □ Yes  □ No

If you are widowed, what date did this occur? _______________________________________

Home Phone/Email _______________________________________________________________

Employer ______________________________________________________________________

Job Title __________________________________________ Work Phone_____________________

Is your spouse a U.S. Citizen or Lawful Permanent Resident?

□ No □ Born in the U.S. □ Naturalized □ LPR

Check which documents your spouse presently has:

□ Will  □ Living Will  □ Living Trust

□ Durable Power of Attorney/Healthcare □ Durable Power of Attorney/Finances

Do you or your spouse have a prenuptial agreement that identifies and disposes of separate spousal

property? (If yes, attach a copy.)  □ Yes  □ No

----------------------------------------------

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION

Religious Organization_____________________________________________________________

City________________________________________________________ State ______________
**YOUR CHILDREN’S INFORMATION**

Please list all children, whether minors or adults, including deceased children and children of a prior marriage. If you have more than three children, please attach additional pages as needed. If you wish to exclude a child as a beneficiary of your estate, check the "Exclude" box. If you have no children, write "NONE."

1. Full Legal Name ____________________________________________________________
   
   Date of Birth ___________________________ Social Security # ______________________
   
   Marital Status:  □ Married  □ Single  □ Needs Special Care  □ Dependent  □ Exclude
   
   Home Address ________________________________________________________________
   
   City _______________________________________________________________________
   
   State _______________ Zip __________________________
   
   Origin
   □ Child of Present Marriage  □ Child of Prior Marriage or Relationship  □ Deceased

2. Full Legal Name ____________________________________________________________
   
   Date of Birth ___________________________ Social Security # ______________________
   
   Marital Status:  □ Married  □ Single  □ Needs Special Care  □ Dependent  □ Exclude
   
   Home Address ________________________________________________________________
   
   City _______________________________________________________________________
   
   State _______________ Zip __________________________
   
   Origin
   □ Child of Present Marriage  □ Child of Prior Marriage or Relationship  □ Deceased

3. Full Legal Name ____________________________________________________________
   
   Date of Birth ___________________________ Social Security # ______________________
   
   Marital Status:  □ Married  □ Single  □ Needs Special Care  □ Dependent  □ Exclude
   
   Home Address ________________________________________________________________
   
   City _______________________________________________________________________
   
   State _______________ Zip __________________________
   
   Origin
   □ Child of Present Marriage  □ Child of Prior Marriage or Relationship  □ Deceased
2. You And Your Contacts

YOUR EXECUTOR

Your executor is the manager of your estate. Because he or she will make many decisions about the management and distribution of your estate, you should select a trusted person who understands your circumstances. An executor will usually complete eight separate steps to ensure an orderly transfer of all of your property to the right individuals:

1. Submit your will to the probate court
2. Locate your heirs
3. Determine your estate assets and values
4. Pay bills and the estate attorney
5. Make debt payments
6. Resolve any estate controversies
7. File your income and estate tax returns
8. Distribute your assets to heirs

Please name your Executor
Executor
Address
City_________________________ State ________ Zip__________________
Home Phone/Email ________________________________
Relationship, if not a spouse______________________________

Please name your Alternate Executor
In case the person above is unable to serve, please name an Alternate Executor.

Name
Address
City_________________________ State ________ Zip__________________
Home Phone/Email ________________________________
Relationship ________________________________
YOUR GUARDIAN FOR MINOR CHILDREN

Please name your Guardian

Guardian ____________________________________________________________
Address ____________________________________________________________
City _______________________________ State _______ Zip ________________
Home Phone/Email ____________________________________________________
Relationship, if not a spouse __________________________________________

Please name your Alternate Guardian

Guardian ____________________________________________________________
Address ____________________________________________________________
City _______________________________ State _______ Zip ________________
Home Phone/Email ____________________________________________________
Relationship _________________________________________________________

POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR FINANCES

Do you want to create a durable power of attorney for finances? □ Yes □ No

Please name your Power of Attorney For Finances

Primary Name _______________________________________________________
Address ____________________________________________________________
City _______________________________ State _______ Zip ________________
Home Phone/Email ____________________________________________________
Relationship _________________________________________________________

Please name your Alternate Power of Attorney For Finances

Name _______________________________________________________________
Address ____________________________________________________________
City _______________________________ State _______ Zip ________________
Home Phone/Email ____________________________________________________
Relationship, if not a spouse __________________________________________
There are two primary documents that will provide for your future healthcare decisions. A durable power of attorney for healthcare empowers another person you select to make key decisions on your care. These could include whether an operation should be done or other major healthcare decisions should be made.

A second document is a living will. If you are in your final weeks or days of life, decisions must be made with respect to nutrition, hydration, resuscitation and other critical care. A durable power of attorney for healthcare is important to ensure that the right person has been selected. It is called a “durable” power because it is effective even if you are ill and not capable of making your own decisions.

In some states, the living will and durable power of attorney are combined in an “Advance Directive” document.

Please select your primary and secondary healthcare decision makers.

Please name your Power of Attorney For Healthcare
Healthcare Power of Attorney ____________________________________________________________
Address______________________________________________________________________________
City ___________________________ State _______ Zip______________________________
Home Phone/Email ________________________________________________________________
Relationship, if not a spouse________________________________________________________

Please name your Alternate Power of Attorney For Healthcare
Name__________________________________________________________
Address______________________________________________________________________________
City ___________________________ State _______ Zip______________________________
Home Phone/Email ________________________________________________________________
Relationship, if not a spouse________________________________________________________
3. Estate Finances

Please list all of your assets and liabilities. This will help your advisor plan your estate. Most people learn at the end of this exercise that they are worth more than they think!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asset</th>
<th>$Total Value of Asset</th>
<th>Check If Joint Property</th>
<th>Check If Your Property</th>
<th>Check if Your Spouse's Property</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Example Property</td>
<td>$298,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real Estate</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main Residence Address</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second Residence Address</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Vacation Home</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Checking Accounts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bank Account Number</td>
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<tr>
<td>Savings Accounts/CDs/Money Market Funds/Credit Union Accounts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bank Account Number</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tax Sheltered Annuity—not in Retirement Plan</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asset</td>
<td>$Total Value of Asset</td>
<td>Check If Joint Property</td>
<td>Check If Your Property</td>
<td>Check If Your Spouse’s Property</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Bonds or Bond Fund</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Custodian, Account Number</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stocks or Stock Fund Custodian, Account Number</td>
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<tr>
<td>Savings Bonds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal Property</td>
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<tr>
<td>Furniture/Household Furnishings</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tools &amp; Equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Antiques/Collections</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jewelry</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Automobiles/Vehicles</td>
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<tr>
<td>Business Interests</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Life Insurance—Face Amount/Death Benefit</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement (IRA/401(k)/403(b)) Custodian, Account Number</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Retirement Plan</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets: $</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities</td>
<td>$ Total Amount of Debt</td>
<td>Check If Joint Debt</td>
<td>Check If Your Debt</td>
<td>Check If Your Spouse’s Debt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mortgage on Personal Residence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mortgage on Second Residence</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mortgage on Vacation Home</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vehicle Debts</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Charge Accounts</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Installment Contracts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Loans on Life Insurance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Debts</td>
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</table>

Total Liabilities/Debts: $

TOTAL ESTATE: $
(Assets Less Liabilities)

SOURCES OF PROPERTY

___________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________________________
4. Estate Plans

When you are planning your estate, there are several decisions that must be made. Select one of three options for a single person or for a married couple. Enter the information for your selected plan.

**Single Person**

1. **SIMPLE WILL.** With a simple will, you may transfer specific property then give away what is left (the “residue” of your estate). Your simple will may transfer your property to family members or favorite charities.

2. **WILL WITH TRUST FOR MINOR CHILDREN.** If you are a single parent with minor children, it will be important to select a guardian and a trustee to manage assets for their benefit.

3. **WILL WITH “GIVE IT TWICE” TRUST.** As a single person, you may desire to benefit children, nephews, nieces or other relatives and also assist charity. A “Give It Twice” Trust pays income to family with the remainder to charity.

**Married Couple**

1. **SIMPLE WILL.** If you pass away first, your estate is transferred to your surviving spouse. If you are the survivor, with a simple will you may transfer specific property, then give away the residue of your estate. Your simple will may transfer your property to family members or favorite charities.

2. **WILL WITH TRUST FOR MINOR CHILDREN.** If you pass away first, your estate is transferred to your surviving spouse. If you are the survivor and have minor children, it will be important to select a guardian and a trustee to manage assets for their benefit.

3. **WILL WITH “GIVE IT TWICE” TRUST.** If you pass away first, your estate is transferred to your surviving spouse. If you are the survivor, you may desire to benefit children, nephews, nieces or other relatives and also assist charity. A “Give It Twice” Trust pays income to family with the remainder to charity.
What is the “right amount” to leave for children, nephews or nieces?

Here are three guiding principles for deciding on that amount.

1. Everyone should provide for the needs of his or her family.

2. The inheritance provides a reasonable level of increased standard of living for the child, nephew or niece.

3. There are many children who have received an inheritance large enough to cover both needs and wants. An inheritance that covers too many "wants and desires" may lead to unhappiness and lack of incentive to finish school, work, or make sound financial decisions.

There are guidelines for leaving children a substantial inheritance. Some parents have been careful with their resources and have accumulated a significant estate. How can a larger estate be transferred with a favorable outcome for children?

**FIRST,** a larger inheritance will be used more wisely if it is distributed over a longer period of time and at a later age. A lump sum at one time may be unwise. Many younger children who receive a large inheritance at an early age spend it within 18 months.

**SECOND,** transfer a larger inheritance over a period of years. A good plan includes a distribution of principal when the parents pass away, income for a period of years, and a second payout of deferred principal.

**THIRD,** set up a target number for the inheritance. The total inheritance can then be designed to pass that amount to a child, nephew or niece. A target number is the sum of the principal and income given through the inheritance plan.
A married couple with an estate that is not taxable under federal law may desire a simple will. The first estate may include specific bequests to children or charity with the balance transferred outright to the surviving spouse. The estate of the surviving spouse may then be transferred by specific bequest or percent of the estate to children or charity.

**First Estate — Specific Bequests, Balance to Spouse**
Bequests of items or amounts to family or to charity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item or Amount</th>
<th>Recipient, City and State</th>
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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>__________________________</td>
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**Bequests of Percentage of First Estate to Family or Charities, Balance to Spouse**
Percent | Recipient, City and State
---|---
1. | __________________________ |
2. | __________________________ |

**2. SIMPLE WILL — SINGLE PERSON OR SURVIVING SPOUSE**
For a single person or surviving spouse there is a simple will for adult children, nephews or nieces. If the estate is not taxable under federal law, this plan may work well. With a simple will, it is possible to transfer a specific property or amount, and then to divide the balance or residue of the estate among children, nephews or nieces. Many individuals also decide to leave a bequest to charity.

**Specific Bequests**
Bequests of items or amounts to family or to charity.

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**Residue of Estate**
Percent of residue to family or to charity.

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<th>Percent</th>
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A married couple with an estate that is not taxable under federal law may choose to protect and benefit children with a trust. The first estate may include specific bequests to children or charity with the balance transferred outright to the surviving spouse. The estate of the surviving spouse may then be transferred by specific bequests with the residue passing to a trust for children.

**Specific Bequests, Balance to Spouse**
Bequests of items or amounts to family or to charities.

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**Bequests of Percentage of First Estate to Family or Charities, Balance to Spouse**

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**Name, City and State of Trustee**

*Primary Name* __________________________

*Address* __________________________

*City* __________________________ *State* ________ *Zip* __________

*Home Phone/Email* __________________________

*Relationship, if not a spouse* __________________________

*Age for ending trust and distributing principal to children* __________________________

**Name of Charity in Trust**

*Name* __________________________
4. SIMPLE WILL WITH TRUST FOR CHILDREN – SINGLE/SURVIVING SPOUSE

This option assumes that one trust is created with income distributions made equally to children until the selected age. However, the trustee may be given the right to invade the trust for the support or education of children. You will need to select a trustee and choose the age of the youngest child for distribution of trust principal.

Specific Bequests

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</table>

Name, City and State of Trustee

Primary Name

Address

City ___________________________ State ______ Zip ______________

Home Phone/Email ___________________________

Relationship, if not a spouse ___________________________

Age for ending trust and distributing principal to children ___________________________

Name of Charity in Trust

Name ___________________________
A married couple with an estate that is not taxable under federal law may desire a simple will. The first estate may include specific bequests to children or charity with the balance transferred outright to the surviving spouse.

First Estate — Specific Bequests, Balance to Spouse
Bequests of items or amounts to family or to charities.

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Bequests of Percentage of First Estate to Family or Charities, Balance to Spouse

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</table>

“Give It Twice” Trust
If you select this option, please choose the portion to give to children outright and the portion in the “Give It Twice” Trust (the total of the two percentages will be 100%).

Outright to Children __________________________ %
To “Give It Twice” Trust __________________________ %

Children In Trust

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<tr>
<th>Percent</th>
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Name of Charities in Trust

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</table>
Another popular option for a single person or surviving spouse is to divide the estate into two parts. The first portion of the estate is given to the children when you pass away. The other part is transferred to a “Give It Twice” Trust. This is a charitable remainder unitrust that pays 5% each year to children for 20 years (5% times 20 years equals 100%; or you may select 6% for 18 years). After paying income to children for 20 years, the trust corpus is given to favorite charities.

For example, a surviving spouse had an estate of $600,000. She gave $200,000 outright to children from the estate and placed $400,000 in the “Give It Twice” Trust. After payouts of more than $400,000 from the trust, the principal was given to her selected charities. Her children received $600,000, the sum of $200,000 directly from the estate and $400,000 of income from the trust.

Specific Bequests
Bequests of items or amounts to family or to charities.

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“Give It Twice” Trust
If you select this option, please choose the portion to give to children outright and the portion in the “Give It Twice” Trust (the total of the two percentages will be 100%).

Outright to Children _____________________________ %

To “Give It Twice” Trust _____________________________ %

Children In Trust

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Name of Charities in Trust

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5. Estate Planning Information

PERSONAL PROPERTY DISTRIBUTION

List to Dispose of Personal Property

Your will or trust is designed to transfer property to the person you select. However, many states permit you to update and maintain a list of personal items that may be changed whenever you desire. The lists must be signed and dated, and describe the personal property and name the recipient.

Under the laws of most states, you are permitted to make a list of property that may include jewelry, silver, china, furniture, and collections of stamps, coins, art and other personal items that are movable. The advantage of this list is that you may update it as you buy or sell these items, or you may change your mind about who should receive china, silver, rings or other personal items.

By making and updating this list, you can change the recipients as your property changes. It is important to be certain that you have signed and dated each list. Only the last list you have completed before your passing will be valid.

If some items on this list are very valuable (especially art and other collections), then it is important to discuss the transfer of these items with your professional advisor. Your advisor may use language similar to the language below in your will:

"Under the laws of the State of ______________ I may leave a written statement or a list, dated and signed by me, disposing of certain items of my tangible personal property. Any such list with date and signature shall be effective to transfer the named personal property. If no signed and dated list is identified by my Personal Representative within thirty days after his or her qualification, it shall be presumed that there is no statement or list and any subsequently discovered statement or list shall be ignored."

Ways to Give or Transfer Personal Property

1. Give during life.
Many senior persons start the gift process during life. By giving personal items to children and other heirs, they understand and appreciate the gift.

2. Consider preferences.
Some children may desire a piano or other instrument. Others may prefer to receive valuable books or china. Discuss the goals of heirs and attempt to make gifts that will be most meaningful to each person.

3. Leave instructions.
The list is very useful. Other items could be distributed through a “rotating choice” plan. Everyone meets together and each person takes a turn at selecting one item.
Unrestricted Gifts for an Existing Affiliated Fund

Unrestricted gifts may be expended at the discretion of the Fund Advisory Committee of an NCF affiliated fund to meet the charitable priorities of the community or charitable organization. Unrestricted gifts may be designated as follows:

“I give __________ to Nebraska Community Foundation, a Nebraska nonprofit corporation. This gift shall be used for the benefit of the [name of the affiliated fund].”

Designated Gifts for an Existing Affiliated Fund

Donors may designate their gift for a specific charitable interest area within an NCF affiliated fund as follows:

If there is an existing account for the purpose you wish to benefit:

“I give __________ to Nebraska Community Foundation, a Nebraska nonprofit corporation. This gift shall be used for the benefit of the [account name such as “Endowment Account” or “Elementary PTO Account”] within the [name of the affiliated fund].”

If there is not an existing account for the charitable purpose you wish to benefit, please contact Nebraska Community Foundation at 402.323.7330.

Gifts to Support Nebraska Community Foundation

Donors may designate gifts to support NCF’s community development work by making an unrestricted gift or contributing to NCF’s general permanent endowment fund.

An unrestricted gift may be designated as follows:

“I give __________ to Nebraska Community Foundation, a Nebraska nonprofit corporation, to be used at the direction of the Nebraska Community Foundation board of directors.”

Gifts to the NCF permanent endowment fund may be designated as follows:

“I give __________ to Nebraska Community Foundation, a Nebraska nonprofit corporation, for its permanent endowment fund.”

Gifts to Establish a New Affiliated Fund

Donors wishing to establish a new affiliated fund with a planned gift are encouraged to contact Nebraska Community Foundation. NCF can provide illustrations of various gift plans and sample documents as needed without obligation and at no cost.

Note: The above information is of a general nature and is not intended as legal advice. It should not replace the counsel of your tax, legal or estate planning advisors.

Contact Us

If you are considering a gift in your will but would like to ensure that your gift will be used for a specific purpose, please let us know.

Please contact us if you have any questions about how to make a gift in your will or to request any additional information that might be helpful to you and your attorney as you consider making a gift in your will.

If you have included a gift for Nebraska Community Foundation or an affiliated fund in your will, please contact us to let us know. We would like to thank you and recognize you for your gift.
We unleash abundant local assets, inspire charitable giving, and connect ambitious people to build stronger communities and a Greater Nebraska.