

Gifts of Retirement Plan Assets:

Want to get the most value from your nest egg, protect your heirs from heavy taxes and make your mark at our organization? Consider leaving a portion of your retirement plan assets to Make-A-Wish® Orange County and the Inland Empire

How It Works

If you die with retirement plan assets in your estate, those assets are subject to income taxes. This can reduce the amount that normally would be passed to heirs by up to 39.6 percent. In contrast, as a nonprofit organization, we are tax-exempt and eligible to receive the full amount and bypass any federal taxes. Income taxes can be eliminated or reduced through a carefully planned charitable gift. Consider these gift options:

- Designate Make-A-Wish Orange County and the Inland Empire as the primary beneficiary for a percentage (1 to 100 percent) of your retirement plan assets.
- Designate a specific amount to be paid to us before the remainder is divided among family beneficiaries.
- Make us the contingent beneficiary to receive the balance only if your loved one, as primary beneficiary, doesn't survive you.

Did you know? If your children are the beneficiaries of your IRAs and other retirement plan assets, federal income taxes may erode up to 39.6 percent of the amount they receive.

To implement your wishes, simply advise your plan administrator of your decision and sign whatever forms are required.



How You Benefit

Leaving retirement plan assets to Make-A-Wish Orange County and the Inland Empire shields your heirs from taxes on the retirement assets and frees you to give them other assets that are not as heavily taxed.

For Example

Betty plans to leave \$250,000 to her niece, Lisa, and \$250,000 to Make-A-Wish®. Among her assets, Betty owns a \$250,000 IRA. If she leaves the IRA to Lisa, it will be subject to income taxes at Lisa's marginal income tax rate (35 percent). To avoid her niece having to pay these taxes, Betty names us the beneficiary of her IRA and leaves less tax-burdened assets to Lisa. Because Make-A-Wish® is tax-exempt, income taxes are eliminated.

A Second Gift Option

You can also consider creating a charitable remainder trust for heavily taxed retirement plan assets. Such a trust could be set up to receive the proceeds of your retirement plan at your death. The trust would pay income for life to a family member of your choosing, after which the remaining assets pass to Make-A-Wish Orange County and the Inland Empire.