



Suggested Bequest Language

To make a bequest to the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut (CFECT), you may create a new will, add a codicil to your current will, or include CFECT in your trust. When discussing your bequest intentions with your personal advisor, please also consider the tax advantages your estate might receive by using similar language to name CFECT as the residual beneficiary of your qualified retirement plan or life insurance policy.

Two Types of Bequests

There are two principal types of bequests: **specific and residuary**.

In a specific bequest, your will should specify a dollar amount or a particular asset, such as securities, real estate, or tangible personal property (musical instruments, rare books, or valuable works of art). Gifts of real estate and tangible personal property are subject to CFECT approval.

Example: "I give the sum of _____ dollars (\$ _____) or (description of personal property) to the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, Connecticut (E.I.N. 06-1080097), to be used or disposed of for its general charitable purposes."

In a residuary estate bequest, your will should specify that you give CFECT all or a percentage of the remainder of your estate after the payment of estate-related expenses and other specifically named legacies.

Example: "I give _____ percent of the residue of my estate to the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, New London, Connecticut (E.I.N. 06-1080097), to be used or disposed of for its general charitable purposes."

If you further wish your bequest be applied to a specific purpose, use the following example:

"I give (the sum of _____ dollars) or (_____ percent of the residual of my estate) to the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, New London, Connecticut (E.I.N. 06-1080097), with a preference that the income be used only for the following purpose: {specify priority area(s), initiative(s) and/or interest area(s)}."

A Note on Gift Restrictions

Bequests and assignments to specific programs, priority areas, or initiatives that are part of the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut are permissible and welcomed, but gifts with the broadest scope and least restrictive designations are, in most cases, preferable to more restrictive gifts.



Community Foundation
of Eastern Connecticut

Please bear in mind that revenue generated by an endowed fund can be spent only if it meets the exact specifications provided by the donor by means of an appropriate testamentary instrument. This can be taken care of most effectively during the donor's lifetime by creating a non-binding Future Fund "use agreement" document with CFECT's development staff. Donors should take care to provide CFECT with an alternative spending option should the name of the program or the originally intended purpose of the Fund either change or cease to exist.

One suggestion is to make sure that the following sentence is included in your bequest provision if you haven't already included it in a use agreement:

"In the event that there occurs a change or failure of the circumstances to such an extent that the original purpose of the Fund ceases to exist, the Trustees and Staff of the Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut have the power and authority to use the Fund and its income at their discretion for general uses and purposes or for a purpose that most closely approximates the original purpose of the Fund."

Another suggestion is to make your bequest to CFECT as described above, and insert the phrase "with a preference for {a specific priority area(s), initiative(s) and/or interest area(s)}." This will ensure that CFECT has the greatest flexibility in honoring your original intent.

Obtain Tax and Legal Advice

The Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut does not provide tax or legal advice. Seek advice from legal and tax counsel when considering a charitable gift of any kind.