



Types of Funds

The Middletown Community Foundation (MCF) offers an array of philanthropic resources and fund options to help you and your family further your charitable goals. Named funds may be established with a gift of cash, appreciated securities or other assets valued at \$10,000 or more. Funds may be established now or later through a provision in your will, trust, or other estate planning documents. The Middletown Community Foundation takes care of all the administrative details associated with your fund.

Donor Advised Funds

These funds are ideal for donors who want to give to multiple organizations and programs throughout the year. A *donor advised fund* offers maximum flexibility. Donors can add to the fund and make grant recommendations from the fund at any time. Through a *donor advised fund*, the donor manages their giving from one account, and support local, regional, and national charitable organizations of their choice. The Foundation handles all the administrative details for the donor and also serves as a knowledge resource for information about community needs and organizations. All grant recommendations are subject to the approval of the Foundation's Board of Trustees as required by law.

Unrestricted Funds (To Support the Communities' Greatest Needs)

Donors can support emerging issues and the ever-changing needs in the community by creating an *unrestricted fund*. Grant decisions are made by the Foundation's Distribution Committee and Board of Trustees consisting of local community leaders. Donors may be assured that the dollars they contribute will be carefully managed and stewarded through responsible investments and granted in the most appropriate way to make the greater Middletown area a better place for generations to come. These funds allow the Foundation to have the greatest impact on the changing needs in our communities now and in the future.

Field of Interest Funds

Donors may support broad areas of interest that reflect their charitable priorities through a *field of interest fund*. Donors may select specific areas of interest such as education, the arts, childcare, healthcare, assisting poor and disadvantaged people, or specific geographic areas, etc. Grants are made from these funds to support the Foundation's annual grantmaking in the stated field of interest.

Designated Funds

These funds allow donors to create a fund that continuously makes grants to their favorite charitable organizations. Through this strategy, donors may endow their annual gifts to one or more organizations. The Foundation manages all of the administrative details and issues grants to the recipient organizations attributable to the named fund. *Designated funds* may be created by living donors to simplify their annual giving or as a legacy through a bequest or other planned gift.

Scholarship Funds

Scholarship funds help students pursue their educational dreams in a variety of ways. Middletown Community Foundation operates one of the largest scholarship programs in the region, providing over \$900,000 a year in educational assistance to needy and deserving students. Donors may design the scholarship criteria to include factors such as financial need, academic merit, graduates of a specific high school or school district, to pursue a specific course of study, or to attend a specific educational institution, or combinations of these factors. MCF takes applications from interested students every year, rates them using our pool of scholarship judges and matches students with the appropriate scholarships based on the judges' evaluations. Foundation staff can work with you to create a *scholarship fund* in memory of or in honor of loved ones and to reflect your values.

Why choose an endowed gift?

Endowment gifts are gifts for the future. Endowed funds not only ensure a stable source of revenue and financial stability for our local nonprofit sector, they enhance the credibility and prestige of the organizations you most care about. Because an endowment gift will be invested permanently, it can serve as a permanent tribute to the donor and extend the donor's values for future generations. It can offer the donor a sense of immortality, a way to define the donor's place in the cosmic scheme of things through support of an important cause.

Middletown Community Foundation's long-term investment objective is to preserve the real value of its permanent funds. The investment portfolio is globally diversified across multiple markets. This model offers long-term growth potential with reduced volatility. MCF's Finance and Investment Committee oversees the Foundation's investment portfolio and reviews its performance quarterly.

Ready to start planning your legacy?

We believe everyone can be a philanthropist. But there is no one-size fits all to philanthropy - that's where the community foundation comes in. We can guide individuals and families in a personal philanthropic journey based on values. As a trusted partner, the community foundation can help you structure your giving in a way that expresses your aspirations for our region's future.

*Information is for educational purposes only and not intended as tax advice.
Please consult your legal and tax advisor prior to making any decision.*