



## SAMPLE LANGUAGE FOR BEQUESTS

The usual method to make a bequest to The Community Foundation is as follows: the client's executor may transfer cash or other assets to The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, Inc. Donors may also make bequests through The Community Foundation's Trustee Banks. Bequests that are more than \$10,000 can establish a named endowed fund. Bequests of any size can be added to an existing fund of The Community Foundation.

The following sample language should be used for the bequest:

"I give (or bequeath) to The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, Inc., a non-profit charitable corporation, for the public, charitable and education uses and purposes, the following assets: \_\_\_\_\_.

**To add to an existing fund at The Community Foundation the additional following language would be appropriate:**

"This gift will be an addition to The \_\_\_\_\_ Fund (Fund Name) in accordance with the Certificate of Incorporation and the By-Laws of The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, Inc."

**To establish an Unrestricted Fund the additional following language would be appropriate:**

"This gift will create an endowed Unrestricted Fund for charitable purposes in accordance with the Certificate of Incorporation and the By-Laws of The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, Inc. It is my desire that this fund be known as The [insert name] Fund.

Annual distributions from the Fund, as determined in accordance with the spending rule policies of The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, shall be used for general charitable purposes."

**To establish a Designated Fund the additional following language would be appropriate:**

"This gift will create an endowed Designated Fund for charitable purposes in accordance with the Certificate of Incorporation and the By-Laws of The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, Inc. It is my desire that this fund be known as The [insert name] Fund.

Annual distributions from the fund, as determined in accordance with the spending rule policies of The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, shall be awarded to (name of the particular charitable organization.)"



If more than one organization is to be designated, the language could read as follows:

“Annual distributions from the fund, as determined in accordance with the spending rule policies of The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, shall be allocated as follows:

10% to (name of the particular charitable organization);  
20% to (name of the particular charitable organization);  
70% to (name of the particular charitable organization);”

You may also add the following:

“Should the prior named organization(s) cease to exist, annual distributions will be (select the appropriate phrase below)  
Made to organizations which serve as nearly as possible the same purposes as the prior-named organizations, or,  
Made at the discretion of the Board of Directors of The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, Inc.”

To establish a **Preference Fund** the additional following language would be appropriate:

“This gift will create an endowed Preference Fund for charitable purposes in accordance with the Certificate of Incorporation and the By-Laws of The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, Inc. It is my desire that this fund be known as The [insert name] Fund.

Annual distributions from the Fund, as determined in accordance with the spending rule policies of The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, shall be used to make grants for the following charitable purposes: (insert general purposes, e.g., youth development programs, elderly services programs, environmental causes, etc.)”

To establish a **Scholarship Fund (Designated)** the additional following language would be appropriate:

“This gift will create an endowed Scholarship Fund for charitable purposes in accordance with the Certificate of Incorporation and the By-Laws of The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, Inc. It is my desire that this fund be known as The [insert name] Fund.

Annual distributions from the Fund, as determined in accordance with the spending rule policies of The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, shall be awarded to [name of the particular charitable/educational



**The Community Foundation**  
*for Greater New Haven*

organization(s)]. Should the prior named organization(s) cease to exist, distribution will be made to [insert preference language].”

For more information, please call The Community Foundation at 203-777-2386.