

The ICS Endowment: Securing the Future for Today and Tomorrow

Interfaith Community Services offers many ways you can help our community. You can volunteer, donate annually, or contribute to the ICS Endowment. The Endowment has grown to \$2.4 million in less than three years; the goal is to reach \$5 million by 2015. Read on to better understand why the ICS Endowment is important to our future and the people we help.

Question: *If I make a donation to ICS every year, am I contributing to the Endowment?*

Actually, this type of gift is an annual gift that would be used each year to help to support continuing operations and to help people in the present.

Question: *Then what is the ICS Endowment?*

The ICS Endowment is a permanent investment account to build ICS's future and create a basis for financial stability and growth. It helps to think of it as a nest egg. The principal of the Endowment is never touched, but is invested to secure perpetual income for ICS. At ICS, only five percent of investment earnings from interest on the Endowment account is used each year to fund ICS operations, or in designated cases, at the wishes of the donor. Earnings more than five percent return to savings to grow. The earnings help ICS stay on track in times when income goes up or down, being less vulnerable to economic downturns. The ICS Endowment helps make sure the agency will be here to help people in need for many years to come.

Question: *Who's in charge of the ICS Endowment?*

The Finance Committee of the ICS Board of Directors operates under an Endowment Policy Statement and an Investment Policy Statement. You can ask to read those statements if you wish.

Question: *How do I make a donation to the ICS Endowment?*

You can always make a cash gift and specify it for the ICS Endowment. If you want to make a special gift, you have to do a little planning. You can leave a bequest to the Endowment in your will. You can make the ICS Endowment a beneficiary of a life insurance policy or of a retirement account. There are also various planned giving trusts that you could consider, including some that generate income for you while creating a gift to ICS.

Question: *It sounds like I can leave a legacy with the ICS Endowment. Is that right?*

Yes! If you make a planned gift or a current gift of \$10,000 or more to the Endowment fund, you will be recognized as a member of the Interfaith Legacy Society, a special group of ICS donors. Endowment contributions can be given in your name or in memory or honor of someone special. This is a wonderful way to help secure the future of ICS, while giving back to your community. Gifts over \$50,000 to the Endowment can be designated for a specific purpose (such as a specific program).

Question: *I'd like to find out more about becoming part of the ICS Endowment.*

That's great news! Please contact Deborah Carr, ICS Donor Relations Manager, at 520-297-2738 x222, for more information or to discuss Endowment giving at ICS. Members of the ICS Planned Giving Advisory Council, comprised of experienced professionals in wealth management, estate planning and accounting fields, are also available to provide expert guidance to ICS donors on Endowment and planned giving options. Thanks for your commitment to Interfaith Community Services!

(Article by Linda Stratton, Stratton Advisors and member of the
ICS Planned Giving Advisory Council)

June 2011