

Create Your Legacy with an Endowment



The Gift That Goes Beyond One-Time Giving

An endowment is a charitable gift that creates a permanent, self-sustaining source of funding to a nonprofit organization such as your parish or school. It is a restricted fund, and only the interest from the fund can be spent, not the principal that anchors the endowment. Typically, only a portion of the interest or earnings from the endowment (up to 5%) is spent annually to assure that the original funds will grow over time. An endowment is structured so that the principal sum is kept intact, while investment earnings are available for use in perpetuity. Once established, anyone can make additional contributions to the fund in any dollar amount.

THE GOAL

You want to make a lasting gift to your parish, school, or Catholic organization that is permanent and self-sustaining rather than a one-time gift. You also want to be able to designate exactly where your gift is used, whether it's a general fund or a specific project.

THE STRATEGY

An endowment fund allows you to provide a steady stream of annual income. The principal of an endowment is kept intact and annual earnings are used to support a specific cause.

THE BENEFITS

By maintaining the principal, an endowment allows a charitable impact over a longer period of time than a gift disbursed all at once. It ensures long-term financial support to your chosen cause. Endowment funds allow you to designate any Catholic organization, or leave unrestricted to serve the greatest need.

WHY START AN ENDOWMENT?

Through an endowment, you provide a gift that generates annual revenue to support the charitable cause of your choice. Some of the key benefits of starting an endowment with The Catholic Foundation of Southern Nebraska include:

- The Catholic Foundation manages the fund and distributes ongoing income to your selected organization
- Creating an endowed fund gives you an opportunity to give the fund a name that is meaningful to you, or honor another person in memory or tribute
- Gifts are always Invested in accordance with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops guidelines for Socially Responsible Investments
- To encourage additional support and funding, the Foundation raises awareness of the endowments we manage through our website, materials, seminars, events, and a legacy society



Frequently Asked Questions



WHAT IS THE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION OF SOUTHERN NEBRASKA?

The Catholic Foundation is a charitable foundation established to serve the Catholic community by promoting Christian philanthropy. A community foundation, The Catholic Foundation offers donors highly effective fund vehicles for their charitable resources, professional stewardship of those funds, optimal tax benefits, and a program of generous and responsible giving to the community that creates meaningful and lasting legacies.

WHAT IS THE FOUNDATION'S RELATIONSHIP TO THE DIOCESE?

The Catholic Foundation is an entirely independent entity, with its own 501(c)(3) designation, by-laws, board of directors and staff professionals. It functions, however, as an integral part of the Diocese of Lincoln, and of the entire Catholic community. It was established in 1999 to manage endowment funds upon which the Catholic Diocese of Lincoln could depend to generate the additional resources needed to serve its people, parishes, schools, hospitals and social service agencies. The Bishop is a member of the Board of Directors.

HOW IS AN ENDOWMENT DIFFERENT FROM OTHER TYPES OF CHARITABLE GIFTS?

The greatest challenge of a charitable organization is to meet its annual budget. However, there are also many other needs and programs for a parish, school, or Catholic organization to fund and implement. Whether you desire to help fund an organization's operating expenses on an ongoing basis, or ensure the long-term success of a program you are passionate about, your beneficiary benefits most by having a sustained gift, rather than a lump sum of cash. What makes an Endowment different from other charitable gifts is that it creates a permanent, self-sustaining source of funding—it allows you to fund a project in perpetuity.

CAN ANYONE START AN ENDOWMENT FUND?

Yes. Donors are encouraged to initiate an endowment that is personal and meaningful to them, as individuals, as part of a group, or as a family. Endowments may be made in one's name, in memory of a loved one, or anonymously. Starting a fund requires a minimum balance of \$10,000.

WHAT ARE SOME WAYS TO FUND A NEW ENDOWMENT?

An endowment may be funded through the gift of a valuable asset or cash. Other funding may be implemented through beneficiary statements or through a charitable bequest in your will as part of your estate plan.

WHO IS IN CHARGE OF INVESTING PARISH ENDOWMENT FUND ASSETS?

The investment of Fund assets is under the control and supervision of The Catholic Foundation of Southern Nebraska. Currently, Foundation investment assets are managed by institutional money managers, each of which follows strict Catholic investment policies under the supervision of the Foundation's Board of Directors and the Foundation's Investment Committee. Manager performance is carefully scrutinized and monitored on an ongoing basis, and is reviewed quarterly by the Board of Directors.

WILL I HAVE CONTROL OVER THE ENDOWMENT THAT I ESTABLISH AT THE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION?

Assets invested in an Endowment Fund are held and managed for the support of the designated beneficiary(ies). They are managed by institutional money managers who work for The Catholic Foundation of Southern Nebraska. The Foundation makes a commitment to honor your personal philanthropic intentions throughout your lifetime and in perpetuity. Your vision, then, affects every decision made by the Board of Directors. We elicit that information at the time we establish the fund(s), and we encourage on-going communication so that we can help you realize your unique charitable vision.