



Dialogue

A conversation with our constituents

Tailor Plans to Meet Needs

Personal financial planning takes on more importance today than ever before, and many needs must be considered.

Security during retirement concerns most Americans. Perhaps an aging family member will require long-term care or you may want to provide educational expenses for a younger loved one. Decisions you make now can ensure that you can meet these and other needs.

Your past and present support of charitable causes may mean a great deal to you and others. But you may wonder if you can continue your charitable gifts without taking away from important personal responsibilities.



Thanks to generous support from donors like you, Crouse nurses, doctors and staff make a difference in patients' lives every day.

Professional advisors can help

Skilled financial planning can balance what may seem to be contradictory goals. Generally, the best way to begin to accomplish objectives is to have your plans prepared by professionals. Such plans may include a will, trusts, life insurance, gift annuities or retirement accounts.

Remembering charitable organizations

Leaving a legacy to a charitable organization such as Crouse Health Foundation can be simple. One of the easiest ways to accomplish this goal is to make gifts in your will or other long-range plans.

You can name Crouse in your will in the same way you make bequests to children, grandchildren and other heirs. This can often be accomplished through a minor modification of your existing plans. It can even be possible to make your gift while minimizing taxes and settlement costs and conserving more of your estate for loved ones.

Build your future

In these pages, we offer practical ideas for making meaningful charitable gifts as part of your estate plan. Read on to learn more about creative solutions to planning challenges. We are available to help answer questions you or your advisors may have about exciting charitable gift planning possibilities.

Is Now the Time to Review Your Plans?

Recent years have been ones of change for all of us. It is a good idea to review your will and other estate plans on a regular basis. There are many events in life that can call for a change in your plans, such as:

If someone cannot serve. If your plans were made some time ago, the person you named to settle your affairs may no longer be able to serve. If an alternate is not named, a court could appoint someone you or your family may not know.

Changes in wealth. Your estate plans should change along with your economic circumstances.

A change in marital status. If you are recently married, widowed or divorced, revisions to your plans may be necessary.

The birth of children or grandchildren. You will no doubt want your plans to include additions to your family. You can also name guardians for minor children or other dependents.

A move to another state. State laws governing wills and trusts vary. If your plans were drafted under the laws of another state, it may be wise to have them reviewed to be sure you make use



Patients depend on Crouse for excellent care in a compassionate, healing environment.

of all the benefits available under the laws of the state where you now live.

Changes in tax laws. In recent years, Congress established new estate and gift tax rates and set the level at which they would apply in the future. As a result of these changes, many will find they have more assets available in their estates that can make it possible to provide for both their heirs and Crouse Health Foundation in ways they may not have thought possible.

A desire to make charitable gifts. Many choose to use their estate plans to make “gifts of a lifetime.” After taking care of family and friends, they choose to remember the charitable organizations they have faithfully supported in life, such as Crouse Health Foundation.

Consult your advisors if you believe changes are in order. We will be happy to provide more information about ways you can include Crouse in your plans.

Including a Gift in Your Plans

To create a bequest by will to a charitable organization, simply inform your attorney when you are reviewing your plans. Often the change does not necessitate a new will, but simply the addition of a codicil to your existing will.

If you plan to use living trusts and other vehicles as the primary means to distribute your property, remember that charitable dispositions may be made in these documents as well. Let your professional advisors know of your wishes.

A Convenient Way to Give

If you are retired or if you are planning for retirement in the coming years, you are no doubt keeping a watchful eye on the economy to see how it may affect your circumstances. With so much economic uncertainty, it may seem as though charitable giving could negatively impact your future financial security.

Thankfully, this need not be the case. Through careful planning, you may find that retirement funds can provide an untapped source from which to make charitable gifts.

Give now

Make Tax-Free Gifts to Crouse Health Foundation From Your IRA. If you are age 70½ or older, you can give directly from a traditional or Roth IRA completely free of federal income tax (up to \$100,000 per person per year).

Giving directly from your IRA won't increase your adjusted gross income and possibly subject your Social Security income to a higher level of taxation. Additionally, your charitable IRA gift may count towards your required minimum withdrawal.

Give later

Make Crouse Health Foundation the Beneficiary of a Retirement Plan. When you leave the balance of an IRA, 401(k) or 403(b) to your heirs, they must carefully manage the account to avoid losing its tax-deferred status and potentially triggering large income taxes and possible penalties.

You can simplify matters for your loved ones by directing all or a portion of what remains in your retirement accounts to charities and leaving other more tax-favored assets to your heirs. Designating a charitable beneficiary of a retirement account does not require you to change your will.



Crouse's highly skilled surgeons perform more than 8,200 procedures each year.

More information

As always, it is best to discuss your plans with your financial advisors. Your retirement plan administrator can be a good place to start when considering these types of gifts.

We will also be pleased to provide additional information about ways you can meet your charitable goals. There is no obligation and all inquiries are strictly confidential.

Crouse Health Foundation Announces Comprehensive Campaign for Crouse Health

Crouse Health Foundation is in the midst of the most ambitious campaign in its history—a \$20 million effort over five years.

Of that goal, \$17.5 million is earmarked for capital improvements to the Pomeroy Emergency Services Department and the Baker Regional Neonatal Intensive Care Unit. Another \$2.5 million is annual unrestricted giving to the foundation to provide ongoing support for other Crouse programs and services. Additionally, the campaign is focusing on increasing current and planned gifts to its endowment.

Last fall, Community Chairs Trish and Mike Hopkins publicly announced the campaign at Tribute Evening and, as of today, we have raised over \$11.1 million towards the goal of \$20 million.

Crouse Health President and CEO Kimberly Boynton is optimistic about the community's

support for the *CrouseCares* campaign. "Today's Crouse Health reflects a rich history of innovation, visionary leadership and strong community support. Crouse's heritage as a trusted health and wellness regional resource – and major economic anchor in Central New York – mirrors the growth and development of our community over the past 130 years," she said.

To learn more, visit crouse.org/crousecares or contact Director of Philanthropy Jeff Comanici at (315) 470-7054 or jeffrycomanici@crouse.org.



The purpose of this publication is to provide general gift, estate, and financial planning information. It is not intended as legal, accounting, or other professional advice. For assistance in planning charitable gifts with tax and other financial implications, the services of appropriate advisors should be obtained. Consult an attorney for advice if your plans require revision of a will or other legal document. Tax deductions vary based on applicable federal discount rates, which can change on a monthly basis. Some opportunities may not be available in all states. ©Copyright 2017 by Sharpe Group. All Rights Reserved. NWD-17

The Crouse Health Foundation was established in 1974 to support Crouse Hospital in providing the best in patient care and promoting community health.

Foundation donors enjoy a wide variety of giving options including bequests, our Pooled Income Fund, gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts and other life income plans.

Our staff can show donors ways to use appreciated securities, real estate, life insurance, IRA distributions and other assets to support the Foundation's mission and further their own financial, estate and tax planning.




For more information on how to plan a rewarding and satisfying gift that reflects your own personal objectives and values, please contact:



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All inquiries will be held in strict confidence and information is provided with no obligation.