



INSPIRED GIVING

An Estate and Charitable Planning Guide for Friends of Glaucoma Research Foundation | Vol. 13 Fall 2022

The Power of Beneficiary Designations Your Invisible Estate Plan

The exciting news is that you can do more with your legacy than you may think is possible. But many individuals overlook assets that could have gone to a worthwhile cause or loved one.

While a will is critical to your overall planning, you likely have assets that pass outside of this important document.

Luckily, through the power of beneficiary designations, you can take control.

Q: What is a beneficiary designation?

A: The act of designating a person or organization as the future recipient of funds from an asset that passes outside your will.

You can name beneficiaries for the following assets:

- 401(k) plans
- Individual retirement accounts (IRA)
- Stock options
- Life insurance policies
- Pension or profit-sharing benefits

- Keogh plans
- Group life insurance
- Bank accounts with payable-on-death (POD) arrangements

How Do I Do It?

These assets are incredibly easy to designate to the recipient of your choice. Contact your plan administrator for a change-of-beneficiary form (many even keep their form online). The process can take just a few minutes.

Important Tip: Plan administrators have varying policies for notifying the surviving beneficiaries. Be sure your beneficiaries know about your gift so they can manage the process without undue stress. If you designate Glaucoma Research Foundation as a recipient, we want to be sure that we use your gift exactly as you intend. Please notify us so that we can thank you for your generosity.

We would be honored to help find the giving option that is best for you. Contact Nancy Graydon at 415-986-3162 ext. 231 or ngraydon@glaucoma.org today.





Know My Worth

Thinking about how much your estate is worth can raise all kinds of questions: Is there enough to retire on? Can I provide for my family? Fortunately, most people have more in their estate than they think.

To get started, write down what you have. Use the current market value for everything you own and the face value (not cash value) for any life insurance. We've provided a chart to list your figures. Don't worry about exact amounts; your best estimate is a helpful start.

If you are married, be sure to include your spouse's assets and all jointly owned or community property.

Once you have completed an inventory, you're ready to decide where you want it to go. Taxes may impact your decisions. When you give your retirement plan assets (IRAs, etc.), to your loved ones, for example, they will pay income taxes on any distributions, but if you give them to a nonprofit like Glaucoma Research Foundation, we don't owe taxes and we will receive your gift tax-free.

We can help you navigate how to get the most from your estate. Contact Nancy Graydon at ngraydon@glaucoma.org or 415-986-3162 ext. 231 today.

Take Inventory

Asset	Approximate Value
Cash (savings, money market, checking, CDs)	\$
Residence	
Other real estate	
Stocks, bonds, mutual funds	
Retirement funds (pension, profit-sharing, IRAs, Keogh plans)	
Life insurance face value	
Personal assets (cars, jewelry, boats, paintings, collections)	
Annuities, revocable trusts	
Closely held business interests	
Partnership ventures	
Notes, mortgages owed to you	
Other	
Total assets value:	\$

Time Your Impact: Give from Your IRA

An IRA is an appealing way to save for retirement: Make a contribution and enjoy tax savings. But eventually, the tax bill comes due—when you take your annual distributions and again when you leave your assets to heirs. If you want to avoid the tax bite and make an impact on those at risk for or living with glaucoma, as well as critical research and innovation, consider a gift to Glaucoma Research Foundation.

Make Your Gift Today

If you're 70½ or older, you can make a tax-free gift (up to \$100,000 per year) to GRF. Benefits include:

- See the difference you're making today.
- Pay no income taxes on the gift. The transfer doesn't generate taxable income or a tax deduction.

If you are required to take minimum distributions, your gift can satisfy all or part of your RMD obligation.

Magnify Your Impact After Your Lifetime

You can name GRF as a beneficiary of your retirement account. This is a great option for extending support from your IRA beyond your lifetime. It costs you nothing today. **Here's how:**

1. Contact your IRA administrator for a change-of-beneficiary form, or simply download a form from your provider's website.
2. Name GRF and the gift percentage on the form.
3. Let us know about your plans so we can thank you.

Whether you make your impact at Glaucoma Research Foundation today or after your lifetime, your gift matters. Please contact Nancy Graydon at ngraydon@glaucoma.org or 415-986-3162 ext. 231 to discuss your plans.

Start Planning—From the Comfort of Your Home

You may feel like estate planning is intimidating or not for you, but we're here to help. Glaucoma Research Foundation's *Personal Estate Planning Kit* is receiving rave reviews from friends and supporters, so we're inviting you to learn more about this unique resource.

This helpful kit walks you through the estate planning process step-by-step, removing the question marks and giving you the insight to put together a plan that will benefit you—and generations to come.

When you contact us or check the appropriate box on your reply form, we will send you the complimentary lesson book and accompanying record book. Keep and refer to them as you start the important process of planning your estate.

P.S. If you have remembered GRF in your estate plans please let us know so we can recognize your generosity with membership in the Blanche Matthias Society.



Couple's Giving Motivated by Personal Experience and GRF's Coordinated Effort to Find a Cure

For more than 30 years, Russell Garvin has managed his glaucoma. With his devoted and dedicated wife, Margaret, by his side, they have become fierce advocates for glaucoma research. "We believe in Glaucoma Research Foundation and their search for a cure."

Looking for information and guidance, Margaret found Glaucoma Research Foundation and became deeply interested in the unique model of collaboration with the Catalyst for a Cure team. "I've always been an advocate for teamwork," says Margaret. "More gets done faster when people work together. Collaboration is absolutely critical to success."

Thankfully, Russell has been able to keep his vision stable, due to recent advances in glaucoma research and Russell's faithful regimen of eye drops and the wonderful care of his doctor.

"We give to Glaucoma Research Foundation every year because we feel this is the real deal! Plus, giving through our IRA is an easy and tax-smart way to support this important work. The more money donors can give, the more people can be involved in this research, and the faster we can make the breakthroughs and find a cure."



Russell and Margaret Garvin

If you are inspired to help create a future free from glaucoma, there are many ways you can make a gift without giving up assets you may need today to fund innovative research to find a cure.

To become an integral part of Glaucoma Research Foundation's future, contact Nancy Graydon for more information.

GLAUCOMA
RESEARCH FOUNDATION
www.glaucoma.org/legacy

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If you do not wish to receive planned giving information from Glaucoma Research Foundation, please email development@glaucoma.org or call 1-800-826-6693.

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