



LANCASTER COUNTY
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

DONOR ENDOWMENT FAQ

What is endowment?

Endowment is a unique financial tool that provides ongoing community support. Funds are invested to grow over the long-term. While the principal remains, a portion of the total is made available to spend year after year.

How does endowment work at the Community Foundation?

Funds are pooled and invested to grow in a sustainable way. The Foundation's Board oversees investment performance with the Chief Financial Officer, Investment Committee, and investment partner PNC Bank.

What is an organizational endowment?

An organizational endowment is a fund set up by a nonprofit community benefit organization for its specific benefit. It allows the organization to build a long-term endowment by outsourcing the administration to the Community Foundation. The organization can give directly to its own endowment and can also receive donations from individuals into their endowment at the Community Foundation.

Why should I give to an organizational endowment?

Organizational endowments are an important part of a nonprofit's plan for sustainability. Building a sizable organizational endowment allows for sustained funding for an organization. Since the funds can be used however the organization sees fit, it can help in times where budgets are tight or allow for more focus to be put on programming and less on fundraising.

Importantly, donations to an organizational endowment are tax-deductible and live on in perpetuity. No matter what happens with the organization, the funds are protected to serve the mission.

What can I give?

There are a variety of ways you can give to an organization's endowment at the Community Foundation. The Foundation accepts cash, IRA distributions, qualified charitable distributions, and more complex assets like appreciated stocks, real estate, and gifts made through wills or estates.

Visit lanfound.org/give for more detailed information about organizational endowment and other ways to give.