

# The Options Are Yours

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**Y**ou mean a great deal to all of us at Bridge Communities. You give of your time and your treasure to Bridge's mission. You are making a tremendous impact on the lives of Bridge families – just look inside this newsletter to read the stories about Cassie, Hosanna, and so many others that YOU have provided the opportunity to dramatically improve their lives and those of their children.

Many persons are wondering how the changes to the taxes laws may impact their options for charitable deductions and the best options for giving. Below are a few options that you may want to discuss with your financial planner or tax accountant.

- **Donor-advised Fund:** Creating your own Donor-advised fund is a popular, and low cost way to give to causes that you care about while your broker, financial services firms, or a local community foundation handles the paperwork and manages your fund. You can make a large contribution to the Donor-advised fund in one tax year to maximize the charitable deductions, and still provide loyal support to Bridge Communities through subsequent years' giving.
- **IRA Charitable Rollover:** If you or your spouse are 70 ½ years old, you can make a significant gift to help homeless families without using cash from other sources of income. You can contribute all of portion of your required minimum distributions from your IRA directly to Bridge and reduce your taxable income.

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- **Gifts of Appreciated Securities:** Choosing the right assets to contribute to a charity is very important. Consider using highly appreciated assets such as stock to make your “cash” donation. You will avoid the capital gains tax on the appreciation while at the same time claim the full value of the assets as a charitable contribution.
- **Gifts that Return Income:** You may be able to achieve your charitable goals and receive needed income through a charitable gift annuity or charitable remainder trust. Because these gifts require larger amounts to establish, you may be able to maximize your charitable itemization in the year it is funded.

There are many ways you can include Bridge Communities in your year-end charitable giving planning. To determine if these, or other giving options will help you reach your tax reduction and charitable giving goals, please contact your tax advisor or attorney.

Please contact Amy Van Polen at 630-545-0610, ext. 12 or [amy.vanpolen@bridgecommunities.org](mailto:amy.vanpolen@bridgecommunities.org) to discuss how your giving will impact Bridge families and accomplish your giving goals.



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