

WHY ECF?

At the Evanston Community Foundation, we believe that everyone has the power to make a difference. Our giving philosophy is rooted in the idea that when we come together, we create a stronger, more vibrant community for all. We are committed to addressing the most pressing needs in Evanston while also nurturing long-term solutions that ensure a thriving future for generations to come. Philanthropy is personal, and we're here to meet you wherever you are on your giving journey, ensuring that your contributions are meaningful and impactful—for now, forever, and for everyone.

We invite you to explore the many ways you can join us in supporting this mission. Whether through a one-time donation, establishing a fund, or including ECF in your estate plans, there are countless opportunities to make a lasting impact. Below, you'll find options that align with your values and capacity to give. Together, we can build a brighter, more equitable Evanston.



Our Team Is Here To Help

If you have questions about making a gift, want to learn more about our programs, or need guidance on the best way to support the causes you care about, our team is here to make the process as easy and rewarding as possible. Please don't hesitate to reach out—we're excited to partner with you on your journey to making a lasting impact in Evanston.

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SUPPORT NOW AND FOREVER

Now and Forever, ECF invests in Evanston creatively and strategically. Our investments evolve to address our community's most pressing challenges, seize opportunities, and act as a catalyst to bring ideas to life.

Now Fund

The Now Fund empowers ECF to serve the community now, and throughout the year, enabling us to make immediate grants, bring new ideas to fruition, and mobilize money, people, ideas, and talent.

Forever Fund

Your contribution, whether \$100 or \$1,000,000, to our Forever Funds creates a lasting legacy. These funds are crucial to our endowment, allowing ECF to invest wisely and secure a brighter future.

CONVENIENT WAYS TO GIVE

Donations by Mail

Simple and straightforward, cash or check donations allow you to support your community today. Your donation is tax-deductible in the year it is made, and it provides immediate support for the causes you care about.

How to Give: Make your check payable to "The Evanston Community Foundation". In the memo line, include the name of the fund you wish to support and any relevant organization you are associated with.

Send your donation to:

Evanston Community Foundation
1560 Sherman Avenue, Suite 535
Evanston, IL 60201
Tax ID: 36-3466802

Online Giving

Quick, easy, and secure, online giving allows you to gift from anywhere, at any time, and ensures that your donation is processed immediately. Online donations are tax-deductible in the year they are made.

How to Give:

Visit evanstonforever.org to make your contribution. Click the "Give Now" button, and choose to donate to the Now Fund or select "Show All Funds List" to explore other giving opportunities.

Make a Monthly Gift

JOIN THE IMPACT COLLECTIVE

How it Benefits You: Monthly giving offers an easy way to provide sustained support to ECF's work. By joining the Impact Collective, you become part of a community of donors making a lasting difference.

How to Give: Set up automatic monthly gifts online. Simply visit evanstonforever.org and click the "Give Now" button in the top right corner. Choose "Recurring Donation" to join the Impact Collective and start making a continuous impact.

STRATEGIC GIVING OPTIONS

Open a Donor Advised Fund

Opening a Donor Advised Fund (DAF) at ECF offers a unique opportunity to make a lasting impact on the Evanston community. By partnering with ECF, you can plan your charitable giving with intention, ensuring that your generosity supports the causes you care about while contributing to the long-term vitality of Evanston. Your DAF not only provides flexibility and convenience but also helps build a stronger, more equitable community.

Benefits of a DAF

Partner with ECF

As a DAF advisor at ECF, you can participate in our [Grantmaking Partners program](#), giving you a hands-on role in supporting local nonprofits.

Immediate Tax Deduction

Receive an immediate tax benefit while spreading your giving over several years.

Growth Potential

Your contributions are invested to grow, increasing the impact of your charitable efforts.

Simplified Administration

ECF handles all the administrative details, so you can focus on making a difference.

Local Impact

Your fund supports initiatives that address critical needs in Evanston, from promoting equity to enhancing education and beyond.

GIVE GROW GRANT

Make a Gift from Your DAF to ECF

Supporting the Evanston Community Foundation (ECF) through your Donor Advised Fund (DAF) is a simple and effective way to contribute to the well-being and vitality of our community. Whether your DAF is held with Schwab Charitable, Fidelity, or another financial institution, your generosity can help drive meaningful change in Evanston.

Gift Stock or Securities

Donating appreciated securities, such as stocks, bonds, or mutual funds, allows you to avoid capital gains tax while making a significant charitable impact. It's a tax-wise way to support ECF and make an impact in your community.

Wire Transfer Cash

Wire transfers offer a fast and secure way to make a significant impact. This method is especially beneficial for large gifts, ensuring that funds are available for immediate use.

How to Give

If you would like to make a gift through any of these options, [this document](#) will provide more information on how to do so.



AMPLIFY YOUR SAVINGS

IRA Charitable Rollover

If you're 70½ years or older, you can transfer up to \$100,000 per year from your IRA directly to ECF without having to pay income taxes on the money. This gift can also count toward your required minimum distribution (RMD) if you're 73 or older.

WHY CONSIDER A QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTION (QCD)?

Tax-Free Giving: A QCD allows you to make a tax-free gift directly from your IRA to ECF. This is particularly beneficial if you don't need all of your RMD for personal use.

Meet Your RMD: If you're 73 or older, a QCD can satisfy all or part of your required minimum distribution, reducing your taxable income.

Support ECF's Mission: Your QCD will directly benefit the Evanston community by supporting ECF's initiatives and programs aimed at fostering equity, opportunity, and resilience.

Community Partners

Becoming a Community Partner with ECF allows your company or organization to publicly demonstrate its commitment to the Evanston community. Your partnership will be recognized at our events, in our newsletters, and on social media throughout the year.

How to Give: Partner with us by checking out [this form](#), or by contacting our development team.

Corporate Matching Gifts

Maximize your impact by leveraging your employer's matching gift program. This can double or even triple your contribution, enhancing the support you provide to the community.

How to Give: Check with your HR department to see if your company offers a matching gift program. Then, make your donation and submit the necessary paperwork to have your gift matched.

GIVE FOREVER

Open a Forever Fund

Establishing a Forever Fund with the Evanston Community Foundation (ECF) is one of the most impactful ways to ensure that our mission of fostering a vibrant, inclusive, and equitable Evanston endures indefinitely. A Forever Fund is an endowed, unrestricted fund that provides ECF with the flexibility and stability to address the community's most pressing needs, now and in the future.

WHY CREATE A FOREVER FUND?



Enduring Impact: Your Forever Fund generates ongoing income to support ECF's work year after year, helping us stay responsive to the community's needs and making a lasting difference.



Support What Matters to You Most: Establish your fund in honor of a loved one, family, or a cause close to your heart, aligning your legacy with your values while supporting ECF's mission.



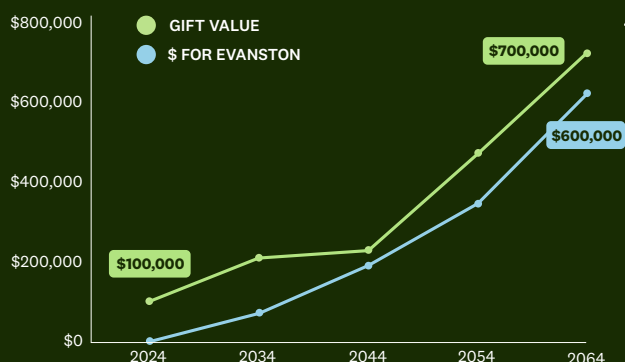
Strengthen ECF's Foundation: Your Forever Fund helps build a strong endowment that empowers ECF to drive change, promote equity, and improve life across Evanston, ensuring a lasting impact.

How to Establish a Forever Fund

Creating a Forever Fund is a straightforward process, and our team is here to guide you every step of the way. Whether you want to honor a loved one, support a specific philanthropic interest, or simply ensure that your commitment to Evanston lives on, we will work with you to establish a fund that aligns with your vision and ECF's mission.

A GIFT HERE FOR GOOD

A gift to the Forever Fund will grow and give in perpetuity. For example, a gift of \$100,000 to the Forever Fund today would grow to \$700,000 and provide an additional \$600,000 to Evanston by 2064.



Planned Giving - The Legacy Society

By including ECF in your will, trust, or other estate plans, you ensure that your legacy of giving continues for generations. Planned gifts can offer significant tax benefits, including estate tax reductions.

Join the Legacy Society: When you include ECF in your estate plans, you become a member of the Legacy Society, a special group of forward-thinking donors dedicated to ensuring Evanston's future. Your membership not only honors your commitment to our community but also inspires others to consider how they can leave their own lasting mark.

How to Give: If you've named ECF in your estate plans or are considering doing so, please let us know. We want to honor your commitment by welcoming you into The Legacy Society.



A LEGACY OF LIFELONG PHILANTHROPY: THE POWER OF BEQUEST GIVING

Anne Stevens dedicated her life to making a difference in Evanston, contributing nearly \$200,000 to the Evanston Community Foundation (ECF) since establishing her fund in 2004. Understanding the importance of legacy, she named ECF as the beneficiary of her IRA, directing \$100,000 to the Sara Schastok Fund, a vital part of ECF's unrestricted forever fund.



Anne's bequest ensures that even after her passing, she continues to support the causes she cared about, providing an estimated \$5,000 annually to the community. Her story illustrates how thoughtful, planned giving can create a lasting impact, allowing your values to benefit future generations in Evanston.



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