

## The SCCF's 20th Anniversary Series

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### Bonus Article: Leaving a Legacy

Over the past twenty years, the Starke County Community Foundation (SCCF) has provided an opportunity for individuals to leave a legacy in their communities. This legacy reflects the individuals' spirit of giving and their passion for causes and charitable organizations in Starke County.

Theodore Roosevelt said, "What a man does for himself dies with him. What a man does for his community lives long after he's gone."



Many generous individuals have left bequests to the SCCF and have therefore left something that will live on forever, endlessly impacting the community and enhancing the quality of life in Starke County. Contributions to the SCCF are immeasurable.

Planned giving can enable donors to make more significant gifts to yield the biggest impact on the community. Planned gifts can be made in many different ways.

Giving to the SCCF through a will is one of the easiest ways to make a gift. Donors may also name the SCCF as the beneficiary of IRA assets, which allows the donor to avoid estate and income taxes. The SCCF keeps 100 percent of the IRA assets and applies them to the charitable purpose or organization the donor chooses.

Life insurance is another great way to make a charitable gift to the SCCF. The donor can deduct the replacement value of the policy, and some donors can increase the size of their gift by purchasing a life insurance policy and naming the SCCF as owner and beneficiary.

Finally, donors can make a planned gift through a Charitable Remainder Trust, Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust (CRAT), Charitable Remainder Unitrust (CRUT), or Charitable Lead Trust (CLT). These types of gifts allow a donor to irrevocably transfer assets into a trust which pays income to the donor or other beneficiaries during their lifetimes. The remainder then goes to a qualified nonprofit of the donor's choice or to the donor's named beneficiaries.

It is never too early to think about planned giving. This is an opportunity for donors to know that their dollars will never be spent but will instead generate income forever to provide sustainability for organizations the donor cares about or to provide assistance for the various needs of the community.

The SCCF honors the legacies that have been established with the SCCF so far. As we have discussed throughout this series, gifts to the SCCF have made such a tremendous impact on Starke County already, and they will continue to do so forever! Through our pillars of giving, we are sure to touch every area of need in Starke County. Our various types of funds enable donors to fulfill their individual charitable wishes.

The past twenty years have yielded remarkable results. In total, the SCCF has awarded \$3,003,539.20 in grants to charitable organizations, \$2,887,305 in scholarships, and has established 121 funds. We are so thankful to our donors and supporters, as well as to the charitable organizations and individuals in Starke County who have put their grant and scholarship dollars to great use.

We hope that you will consider making a planned gift to the SCCF in order to become a part of something strong, immeasurable, and ever-lasting— an organization which will honor your legacy and ensure that your contribution will forever enhance the quality of life in Starke County.