acf aspen COMMUNITY foundation | Designated Funds

Support the nonprofits you love, year after year.



What is a Designated Fund?

A Designated Fund at Aspen Community Foundation (ACF) supports one or more nonprofit organizations you name in your fund agreement. ACF manages the charitable assets and administers grants according to the fund's terms, helping make your giving consistent and convenient.

Why consider a Designated Fund?

- **Give with purpose.** Name the nonprofits you want to support.
- **Make giving easier.** ACF handles grants and administration.
- **Build a lasting legacy.** Continue supporting your favorite causes beyond your lifetime.
- **Give through your IRA.** Eligible qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) can fund a Designated Fund.

How can annual grants be structured?

Depending on the fund agreement and ACF's applicable policies, a designated fund may provide grants as a set dollar amount or as a percentage of fund assets. Unlike family foundations, the IRS does not require designated funds at a community foundation to distribute a fixed annual percentage.

Illustrative Approach	Example
Fixed annual amounts	$5,000 to Nonprofit A and $3,000 to Nonprofit B each year
Percentage-based grants	An annual distribution calculated as a percentage of the fund's value

To establish a fund, contact Stephanie Gianneschi, Director of Philanthropic Services.

stephanie@aspencommunityfoundation.org 970-925-9300

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Can I use a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)?

An eligible donor age 70½ or older may direct a QCD from an IRA directly to a qualifying Designated Fund at ACF. A qualifying QCD is generally excluded from taxable income and may count toward a required minimum distribution (RMD). Because the QCD is excluded from income, it does not generate a charitable income-tax deduction. QCDs cannot be made to donor advised funds.



Designated Fund or Donor Advised Fund?

A Designated Fund identifies the charitable beneficiaries in the fund agreement, with grants administered under those terms. A Donor Advised Fund (DAF) allows fund advisors to recommend eligible grants over time. Unlike a qualifying Designated Fund, a DAF cannot receive QCDs.

Let's talk about your giving goals

ACF would be delighted to help you explore whether a Designated Fund is a good fit for your charitable priorities and the impact you hope to make across the Aspen to Parachute region.

Fund terms, distribution options, eligibility for QCDs, and tax treatment depend on the specific arrangement and applicable law. Please consult ACF and your tax advisor before making a gift.



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