



THE PEOPLE IN YOUR ESTATE PLAN

The Stewards and Recipients of Your Estate

Your estate plan specifies who will act on your behalf and who will be the stewards of your resources.

BENEFICIARIES

Beneficiaries are the people and organizations who will inherit your belongings, including those who:

- You've specified as recipients of your assets,
- Are named as beneficiaries of your retirement funds, life insurance or other accounts, or
- Are entitled by law to receive part of your estate.

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE (EXECUTOR)

A personal representative (otherwise known as an "executor") is the person you've named to carry out your instructions. They may also:

- Collect and maintain property until your estate is settled,
- Take care of final expenses, such as paying off debt, bills or taxes (funded by your estate), and
- Make court appearances on behalf of your estate.

Almost anyone over the age of 18 can serve as an executor, including spouses, siblings or children. The most important qualities in this person are integrity, financial knowledge, dependability, available time and good communication skills.

GUARDIAN

If you have children under the age of 18, it's crucial to specify a trustworthy person to care for their needs when you can't. Otherwise, their guardian will be appointed by a court of law.

AGENT (POWER OF ATTORNEY)

Your agent has legal authority to make decisions on your behalf while you are living, but physically or mentally unable to do so for yourself. This authority is granted by your "Power of Attorney" documents. Specific titles and duties vary by state, but your trusted agent may need to:

- Sign important documents,
- Make timely financial decisions, and
- Make critical decisions about your healthcare.

TRUSTEE

If you have a trust, your trustee has authority to manage and distribute the trust's assets according to your wishes.



"We are thankful for the opportunity we have had for many years to help families obtain housing through our contributions to ICCF. By including ICCF in our wills, we can continue to do this even after we pass on to our heavenly home."

George & Ellen Monsma



Equitable Opportunity | Affordable Homes | Thriving Neighborhoods

iccf.org/planned-gifts

Sharing Your Estate Plan in a Family Meeting

A family meeting can help your children and other heirs avoid the uncertainty and controversy that many families experience after a loved one passes away. It can also open the door to healthy dialogue about your values, goals and estate planning priorities.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Who among our loved ones should be involved?
- Would a trusted advisor, family friend or other mediator be helpful in guiding our conversation?
- What is the best setting where everyone will feel welcome? How can we create a relaxed atmosphere that helps our loved ones be at ease?
- What date and time will be most convenient for all involved? How much time should we allow for ample discussion, questions and processing?
- How much of the details of our plan are we willing to share? Do we want to reveal specific information and the amount or percentage each of our heirs and charities will receive, or would it be better to stick to generalities?

POTENTIAL TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

1. What experiences have shaped my own or our family's story and faith journey?
2. What passions, core values, biblical principles or financial practices have guided my life? Are there ways I would like my heirs to carry on this legacy?
3. How much or what percentage will my children, grandchildren or other loved ones receive?
4. How much of my estate is designated for charity? Which charitable organizations are included in my estate plan, and how do these gifts reflect my passions and values? Are there ways I'd like my heirs to carry on this legacy?
5. Are there practical matters of my estate plan that family members need to know about? (e.g., executor, where these documents are stored, timing, means of distribution, etc.)

TIP: Send an outline for your discussion to your loved ones in advance. This may reduce their anxiety and allow them to come prepared with thoughtful questions.

SAFEGUARDING HOMES & HOPE FOR DECADES TO COME

ICCF Community Homes housing development work has always had a long-range perspective—we renovate and build houses to last, equipping families to put down roots and raise their children in stable and secure homes. The ICCF *Homes & Hope* Legacy Society is a group of ICCF donors who, having made a gift to ICCF Community Homes in their estate plans, help assure that ICCF meets this long-term mission.

Need help taking the next step?

Through ICCF's membership with Barnabas Foundation, you have complementary access to trusted planning assistance from a Christian perspective. To learn more, visit BarnabasFoundation.com or call (888) 448-3040.

If you have already included ICCF in your will, or want to learn more about supporting ICCF long-term, contact: **Hank Kroondyk, Planned Giving Specialist**
hkroondyk@iccf.org | (616) 336-9333 x403

