

BENEFACTION

Calculate your lifetime giving



Adapted from the Bolder Giving Workbook. BolderGiving.org

Step One

Using the worksheet here, write down how much money you gave to non-profits last year – or better yet, choose a figure that represents how much you would like to be giving. Multiply that amount by the number of years you expect to continue to give (for example, if your life expectancy is 88 and you are 48 now, and you expect to keep giving through your lifetime, multiply your giving by 40 years). The total represents your future giving.

$$\begin{array}{r} \$ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\ \text{Your annual giving} \end{array} \times \begin{array}{r} \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\ \text{Number of years you'll give} \end{array} = \$ \begin{array}{r} \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\ \text{Cumulative giving figure} \end{array}$$

Step Two

Add to that an estimate of how much you've given away up till now. The result shows your total giving during your lifetime.

$$\begin{array}{r} \$ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\ \text{Cumulative giving figure} \end{array} \times \begin{array}{r} \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\ \text{Giving to date} \end{array} = \$ \begin{array}{r} \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\ \text{Lifetime giving} \end{array}$$

Step Three

Now consider how much of your assets you expect to direct to non-profits you care about after your death. Add that amount to your total lifetime giving.

$$\begin{array}{r} \$ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\ \text{Lifetime giving} \end{array} \times \begin{array}{r} \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\ \text{Value of gifts from estate} \end{array} = \$ \begin{array}{r} \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\ \text{Lifetime and estate gifts} \end{array}$$

Step Four

Now think about how much giving you could influence in your lifetime. This includes the amount you might fundraise, plus the amount of giving others might do because of your influence. Add this to your total above.

$$\begin{array}{r} \$ \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\ \text{Lifetime and estate gifts} \end{array} \times \begin{array}{r} \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\ \text{Giving you influence} \end{array} = \$ \begin{array}{r} \underline{\hspace{2cm}} \\ \text{TOTAL GIVING POTENTIAL} \end{array}$$

Step Five – Reflect

Experiment with the figures. Does this expand your view of what difference your giving could make, and the value of making a long-term giving plan? What would you love to see accomplished in the world with your grand total?