



## **TAKE ADVANTAGE OF IMPORTANT 2020 END-OF-YEAR GIVING TIPS**

### **That Benefit the Sisters of Social Service... and Yourself!**

The end of the year is a time of reflection and anticipation for the new year ahead, and 2020 is no exception. It's also a time of deadlines. Here are some important charitable considerations ahead of the last day of December. Thank you sincerely for your thoughtful consideration of the Sisters and our ministries during this holiday season.

#### **CARES Act Incentives**

The CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act brought about **temporary** changes to charitable giving in 2020 only, that benefits everyone.

#### **If You Itemize:**

- The CARES Act allows an increase in the cap for cash gifts up to 100% of your adjusted gross income (AGI) when you give to qualified nonprofits, and if you itemize. This is usually done as @60% cash and @30% stock. In doing so, you can erase your income tax liability entirely.

#### **If You Don't Itemize:**

- You can make an additional \$300 universal charitable deduction for cash gifts if you take the standard deduction.

#### **IRA Distribution**

- If you are 59½ or older, you can take a distribution from your IRA and then make a gift to The Sisters of Social Service without penalty, thanks to the CARES Act. If you itemize your deductions, you can take a charitable deduction for the full amount.
- If you are 70½ or older, you can give any amount up to \$100,000 from your IRA directly to The Sisters of Social Service. You will not pay income taxes on the transfer. If you are 72 or older, you can use this transfer to satisfy your required minimum distribution. (Note: The RMD requirement has been waived for 2020, per the CARES Act signed into law on March 27, 2020.)

**To Do:** We must receive your gift by Dec. 31 for your donation to qualify this year. If you have check-writing privileges on your IRA, please mail your check by Dec. 24 to allow time to process your gift.

### Appreciated Stock

You may enjoy two tax benefits with a gift of appreciated stock: Avoid paying taxes on the appreciated value, and qualify for an income tax charitable deduction based on today's market value, when you itemize.

**To Do:** Complete all transfers by Dec. 31. This includes electronic transfer, hand-delivery of the securities or mailed stock and stock power (mailed separately for security).

### Donor Advised Fund

Contribute to a donor advised fund and enjoy a tax savings on that amount when you itemize.

**To do:** Complete the contribution by Dec. 31. You do not have to designate the funds this calendar year to receive the tax benefits.

### Timing and Dates

- US Postal Service, must be postmarked by December 31
- FedEx or UPS, gifts must be received by the Sisters of Social Service by December 31
- Credit Card, "Fully processed," i.e., approved by the credit card issuer by Dec. 31
- Wire Transfer, all funds must be received in the LMU account by Dec. 31
- Stock Gifts, shares must be received in the LMU account by Dec. 31

### Good End-of-Year Planning and Leaving a Legacy to the Sisters

- **Update your will or living trust.** Ensure that your designations are still appropriate and your charitable intentions are noted.
- **Review your retirement plan beneficiaries.** Assess your named beneficiaries to ensure you've considered your loved ones and favorite causes.
- **Review your life insurance policy.** If you have a policy that is no longer a significant piece of your estate plan, consider making a gift by assigning ownership to The Sisters of Social Service or making us the beneficiary.

**As we approach the end of the year,  
we're happy to help ensure that you realize the most tax benefit.  
Please contact Mary Hatton, Director of Development at (818) 285-3358 or  
[mhatton@sssla.org](mailto:mhatton@sssla.org) for more information.**

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