A RESOURCE FOR CORPORATIONS

The importance of corporate philanthropy and corporate social responsibility resonates with corporations, their employees, their clients, and their shareholders more than ever. Corporations are expected to engage employees and give back to the communities in which they do business. The Chicago Community Trust can partner with companies in a variety of ways to help facilitate and administer their corporate philanthropy.

Open a corporate donor advised fund
Creating structure around corporate giving is simplified when using a corporate advised fund at the Trust. Corporations enhance their civic engagement by placing a percentage of profits into their corporate advised fund, and on a regular basis (monthly, quarterly, annually) make distributions to organizations selected by a team of executives or broader personnel. Giving back to the social impact sector generates goodwill with current and prospective employees.

Train next-gen philanthropists through our Young Leaders Fund
A growing number of young professionals desire increased impact for their giving—and to give with peers. Through the Young Leaders Fund at The Chicago Community Trust, your employees can build their professional network, learn about philanthropy, and leverage their contribution into much larger impact distributions to nonprofit organizations.

Collaborate with the Trust
Corporations often want to give back to the communities where they do business and where employees live and work. The Trust is a resource to corporations who wish to better understand the funding opportunities within metropolitan Chicago, and align their philanthropic dollars with those of the Trust and its donors. Whether the interest is basic human needs, arts and culture or sustainability, the Trust can help corporations deploy charitable dollars more effectively and efficiently.

A RESOURCE FOR CORPORATE EXECUTIVES

Many corporate executives are often just as busy in their civic and social lives as they are with their work. This may include serving on a nonprofit board, chairing a civic committee, leading a fundraiser or mentoring through an alma mater or neighborhood organization. The Trust serves as a resource for corporate leaders, including executives and board members, to help them simplify their giving and increase their charitable impact.

Simplify with a donor advised fund
With great civic commitments often comes numerous charitable gifts, and tracking down those gift receipts at tax time can be a headache. Corporate leaders who tend to make many charitable gifts over the course of a year may benefit from opening a donor advised fund as a vehicle for their giving.
A donor can make one annual contribution to his or her donor advised fund, and receive one gift receipt for tax purposes. The donor can then recommend grants out of the donor advised fund account to multiple charities throughout the year. Corporate leaders who wish to give with appreciated stock can contribute stock to a donor advised fund with The Chicago Community Trust, a double tax benefit since the Trust doesn’t pay capital gains on the sale of the stock after it is contributed.

Planning with equity assets
Corporate leaders, including board members and C-suite executives, often receive compensation in the form of company stock. As previously noted, the Trust can accept gifts of publicly traded securities as funding for a donor advised fund. But there may be other planning opportunities for corporate leaders who own company shares.

• Pre-IPO: The Trust can accept contributions of privately held stock on a case-by-case basis. For corporate executives and directors who hold concentrations of privately held stock in anticipation of an initial public offering, a donor advised fund may be an ideal way to fund a charitable giving vehicle with maximum tax advantages. After the contribution, the Trust can hold the shares until the public offering, at which point the shares can be sold and the proceeds invested per the donor’s recommendation. The donor can then use the proceeds from the sale of stock to recommend grants to charitable organizations.

• Single-stock concentration: Some corporate executives may hold large concentrations of company stock that they wish to use for charitable purposes, but don’t want to liquidate all at once. For donor advised fund accounts greater than $1 million, a donor can recommend an investment manager and a custom portfolio for their fund, including a single stock holding, subject to the review and approval of the Trust. The Chicago Community Trust will hold the concentration of stock until a determined price point or time period is met, with stock being sold in the interim, as needed, to cover grants and fees from the account.

• Equity compensation: Corporate leaders who receive equity compensation in the form of restricted stock awards may have the opportunity to use those stock awards to fund a donor advised fund with the Trust. In the right circumstances, a corporate leader can donate the stock, receive a charitable deduction for the fair market value of the contribution, and avoid the built-in gains, if any, when the stock is sold by the Trust. Much depends upon whether or not the stock awards have vested and been held for more than one year, so it is best to consult with a tax advisor before making any gifts of restricted stock awards.

Collaborate with the Trust
In addition to offering donor advised funds, the Trust also helps philanthropists identify issue areas and organizations to support. The Trust can organize site visits, provide recommendations on a funding strategy and help individuals and families assess the impact of their giving. Donors can also choose to align their grants with the strategy of the Trust as a way to amplify the impact of their charitable dollars.

The Chicago Community Trust is well positioned to help corporations and their leaders be more impactful and efficient with their philanthropy.

For more information about how we can assist, please contact Kristin Carlson Vogen or Tim Bresnahan at 312.616.8000.