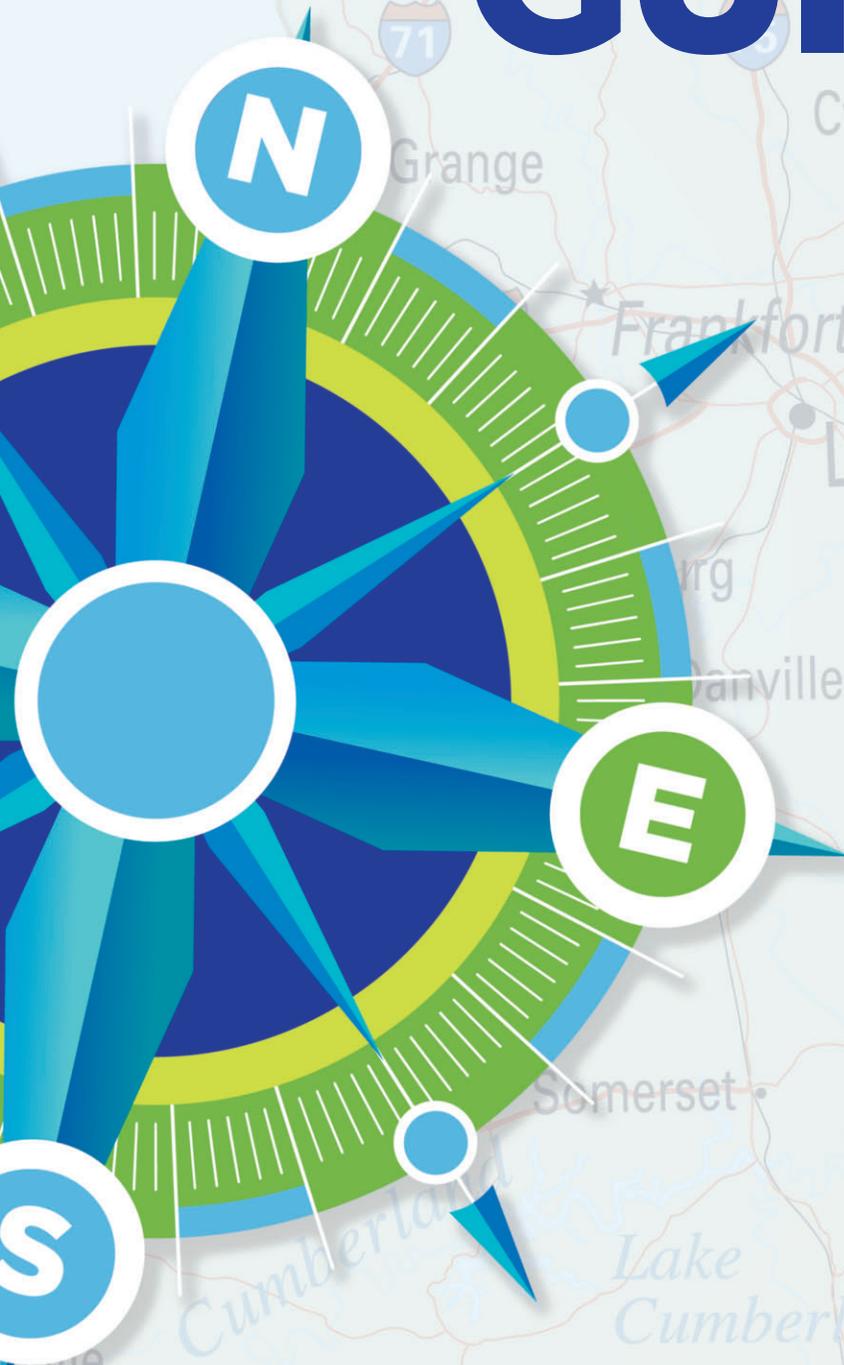


THE GIVING GUIDE



**DISCOVER
WHAT YOU
CAN DO.**

ABOUT BGCF

Blue Grass Community Foundation is our region's go-to source for giving and engagement, inspiring community generosity for more than 50 years. We work every day with givers of all sizes including individuals, families, businesses, nonprofits and communities, helping to establish charitable funds, meet local needs and make the greatest impact.

The Community Foundation was created from the passion of a single couple, C.W. and Irene Sulier, who shared their vision with a group of friends gathered around a table over a shared meal. The Suliers made the first gift of \$1,000 in 1967. Today, through the individual and collective generosity of thousands of donors, the Community Foundation has awarded cumulative grants of more than \$100 million.

When we work together, anything is possible!

ABOUT THE GIVING GUIDE

The Giving Guide is a roadmap to making the 'What ifs' of giving a reality. It's designed to give directions on how to create a charitable plan based on your interests

ABOUT GIVING

Being a helpful neighbor, volunteering in your community or donating to a local charity are all generous gifts of time, talent and dollars. Giving is about enjoying doing good.

Doing good can be as simple as taking a covered dish to a sick friend, taking time to coach a little league team, helping out at a food pantry or giving a dollar or more to sponsor a walkathon participant. Those who help out whenever and wherever they can have a gift for giving.

What if...

your gift for giving could make your community stronger, more vibrant and a better place to live for all who call it home?

What if...

your gift could help make a lasting difference for the future?

What if...

by taking small steps, big dreams for your community could come true?

The goal of this journey is to enhance your gift for giving and show how you can make meaningful and lasting differences in your community.

GETTING STARTED IS AS EASY AS 1 • 2 • 3

- 1 Identify Your Interests and What Is Important to You.**
- 2 Create a Vision for Giving.**
- 3 Use What You Have. Do What You Can.**

4



STEP 1.

Identify Your Interests

To get started, ask yourself the following questions.



What issues and causes in my community or county do I (we) care about?

.....
.....

What organizations have made a difference in my life or that of my family or community?

.....

Which of my gifts of time or money have given me the most pleasure and been the most rewarding?

.....

Keeping those answers in mind, now move to the first activity, which will help you focus on your specific interest areas.

STEP 1.

Identify Your Interests

Activity

From the list below choose three areas of interest to you, record them in the space provided and use the Notes section for additional thoughts.

Interest Areas

Arts, Culture and Museums

- Art Centers
- Craft Organizations
- Music
- Theater



Animal Welfare

Charitable Giving and Voluntarism

Civil Rights and Advocacy

Community Improvement

Crime Prevention and Juvenile Justice

Disaster Preparedness and Relief

Diseases and Medicine

Education

- Preschool
- Elementary
- High School
- Higher Education



Employment

Environment

- Clean Water and Air
- Land Preservation

Feeding the Hungry

Health

- Disease Specific Causes
- Medical Research
- Mental Health and Crisis Intervention
- Nutrition and Obesity
- Wellness



Housing and Shelter

Human Services

- Children, Youth and Family Services
- Domestic Violence
- Drug and Alcohol Addiction
- Aging

International Affairs and Homeland Security



Literacy

Military and Veterans Affairs

Recreation and Sports

Religious Causes and Organizations

Science and Technology

Youth Development

Other

STEP 1.

Identify Your Interests

My/Our Top Three Interests



1.
2.
3.

Notes

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STEP 1.

What Is Important to You

What's Important to You?

What principles do you follow in your every day life?

Activity

In this exercise choose three principles that answer the question –
What do I believe to be most important in reflecting who I am?

Consider sharing this list – or one of your own – with family members or community groups. Encourage them to express what's important to them and see if there are similarities. Record choices in the space on the next page.

Principles

- Acceptance
- Beauty
- Caring
- Commitment
- Compassion
- Cooperation
- Courage
- Creativity
- Democracy
- Dignity
- Diversity
- Empathy
- Empowerment
- Faith
- Fairness
- Equality
- Freedom
- Free Enterprise
- Generosity
- Harmony
- Healing
- Honesty
- Integrity
- Innovation
- Justice
- Joy
- Knowledge
- Leadership
- Love
- Opportunity
- Patriotism
- Peace
- Perseverance
- Preservation
- Respect
- Responsibility
- Self-discipline
- Self-sufficiency
- Service
- Strong work ethic
- Trust
- Other



STEP 1.

What Is Important to You



1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Notes

STEP 2.

Create a Vision for Giving

The next step in developing your personal giving roadmap is to find the connections between your interests and your guiding principles. From the results of the exercises in steps 1 and 2 will come your Vision for Giving that will help focus your charitable energies and guide your efforts to strengthen your community, now and for the future.

Activity

Begin by asking yourself three questions.

My/Our Top Three Interests

1. What are my dreams for my community?

2. What would make it a better place to live?

3. What changes would I put in place?



Create a Vision for Giving

Keeping these questions in mind, look at your top three interest areas and principles (what you value) and ask yourself if there are connections between them.

For example, if your top three interests are education, literacy and employment and your key principles are knowledge, opportunity and respect, the connection between them might be stated as follows.

In order for everyone to have the opportunity to become self-sufficient and lead their lives with respect, they must be able to read and learn.

Or, if your top three interests are children and youth, nutrition and obesity and volunteerism and your key principles are service, knowledge and empowerment, the link between them could be:

In order to serve families struggling with a child's obesity issues, they must be helped to become more knowledgeable about the importance of good nutrition through community-wide volunteer efforts.

What are the Connections Between Your Interest Areas and Principles?



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STEP 2.

Create a Vision for Giving

Based on the information you provided in the previous exercises, prepare your Vision for Giving that outlines your goals and states what you can do to accomplish them. Review the active vision words and sample vision statements on these two pages to help you get started. You may need to draft a few statements and perhaps edit them over time.

Active Vision Words

Accomplish

Adapt

Change

Commit

Decrease

Dedicate

Develop

Educate

Effective

Efficient

Eliminate

Encourage

Establish

Improve

Increase

Insure

Prevent

Produce

Provide

Reduce

Reliable

Respond

Retain

Support

Sustain

Train

Volunteer



STEP 2.

Create a Vision for Giving

Sample Vision for My/Our Giving

I (we) seek to improve literacy in this community by supporting adult and child reading programs and volunteering one hour a week to tutoring children and adults.

Or,

I (we) want to reduce childhood obesity in our community by supporting family nutrition and exercise efforts and volunteering four hours a month to educate parents, teachers and youth group leaders about this issue.

My/Our Vision for Giving



Handwriting practice lines consisting of ten horizontal dotted lines on a green dotted background, intended for writing a personal vision statement.

STEP 3.

Use What You Have. Give What You Can.

Now that you have your Vision for Giving in place, you may be thinking, all that is well and good, but my vision for improving the quality of life where I live is larger than the resources I have to make it happen.

“A journey of ten thousand miles begins with one small step.”
— Ancient Proverb

That one step on the road to achieving your giving goals is to start where you are. Use what you have. Give what you can.

Starting small can yield large benefits if your giving is:

1. Done on a regular basis, and
2. If it's combined with that of others to multiply its impact.



Now It's Time to Make Your Vision a Reality. Here's How Blue Grass Community Foundation Can Help.

What is a Community Foundation?

Community Foundations are public charities created by a collaboration of local citizens with a common purpose – to grow charitable giving and improve the quality of life in their community, county or region.

Since 1967, Blue Grass Community Foundation has been where people go to give to enhance the quality of life in Central and Appalachia Kentucky. We connect charitable individuals, families and businesses with the causes they care about to meet community needs and make a difference. We would love to work with you and your family to maximize the impact of your charitable giving.

Kentucky Nonprofit Directory

Not only can we advise you on the most impactful organizations to give to based on your identified passions, we also provide you with the Kentucky Nonprofit Directory, a free resource that puts in-depth information about every public charity in Kentucky at your fingertips. Access the most transparent financial data about our local charities at bgcf.org/kynonprofitdirectory.

Use What You Have. Give What You Can.

Benefits of Working with Blue Grass Community Foundation to Make the Most of Your Giving:



- Organize your giving with a donor advised charitable fund at Blue Grass Community Foundation. Your gift is fully tax deductible. Then, support your favorite causes whenever you wish.
- Identify the optimal assets you can give, and the financial or tax benefit perspective they offer for your situation. Whether you want to give with cash, real estate, life insurance, closely held stock or a qualified retirement plan, we can help.
- Make a planned gift. Leave a portion of your estate to any charitable fund at the Community Foundation or establish one of your own to support the causes you care most about.

If Your Passion is the Betterment of Your Community, Then Giving to a Community Fund May be the Perfect Choice For You.

What is a Community Fund?

- Invested charitable dollars remain in the community to support local concerns forever
- Donations are pooled for the common good
- Allows givers to start small and realize big returns and lasting benefits for their community.



Contact us for even more ways to give. Together, we can build the most rewarding plan for you!

