

PLANNED GIVING NEWSLETTER #20: SEPTEMBER 8, 2021

OUR STORY...BY JULIE AND JIM CAPALDI

United Way of Pickens County is providing this newsletter as a service to our faithful supporters, because we have seen the consequences of people not having an estate plan.

This newsletter contains information about the various components of an estate plan. We hope that you will use this information to consider how your estate plan can provide for your family, reduce your tax burden, and support charities that you have supported during your lifetime.

It is not intended to provide legal or financial advice. Please seek the help of a local attorney or financial advisor before making an estate plan.

Mailing address:
United Way of Pickens County
P.O. Box 96
Easley, SC 29641

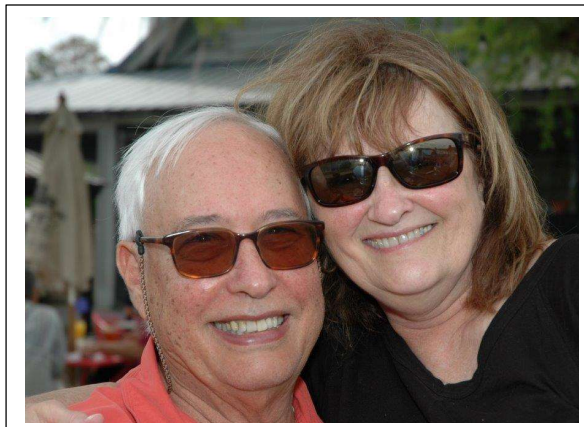
Physical address:
United Way of Pickens County
201 South 5th Street
Easley, SC 29640
864-850-7094 ext. 108

Website:
www.uwpickens.org/heritage-society

Tax ID# 57-0476249

If you wish to be removed from this mailing list, please send an e-mail to Mark Eisengrein at:
meisengrein@uwpickens.org

For five years, this newsletter has featured inspirational stories about individuals who have made a generous commitment to support United Way of Pickens County through their estate plan. Now it's my turn to share about why my husband Jim and I have made an estate pledge...and I want to invite you to join me.



Jim and Julie Capaldi

As President of United Way of Pickens County, I spent the first 20 years of my tenure worrying about not having the funds necessary to help struggling individuals in our community. It was unrelenting and exhausting!

That is why, in 2015, our Board chose to initiate an effort to build an endowment, which is a special fund that is seldom spent but conservatively invested. Each year, United Way of Pickens County could access a portion of the earnings

to meet annual needs. The reasons were simple. Our United Way should always have the financial resources to continue our work in education and poverty despite any bump in the road that threatens to derail us. COVID-19 is a timely example!

Jim and I have always lived a modest life. We learned that from our parents. We own our home, we have sufficient savings, and we even saved for our senior years.

So why did Jim and I decide to pledge to make an endowment gift after we pass? It's pretty simple. Fifteen years ago, United Way of Pickens County received our first estate gift from a lady in Easley that we really didn't know...her name was Kathryn McCombs. She lived a modest life, paid her bills, and had funds left over when she passed. She asked her attorney to "find a local charity that helps others in Pickens County, and give whatever is left of my estate to them". We were shocked when we received this good news. Thanks to Miss McCombs, we have been able to invest her gift, and use the interest each year to help Pickens County residents in need.

Kathryn's wonderful gift got Jim and I thinking about our own legacy and estate, and how we too could help others after we're gone. When Jim and I die (let's face it, we all are going to die one day), the remainder of our estate will go to United Way of Pickens County's Endowment Fund...unrestricted...just like Kathryn McCombs. Why unrestricted? As much as I LOVE, LOVE, LOVE our Education BOLD goal that 70% of 3rd Graders in Pickens County are able to read on grade level, the needs of Pickens County may change after I am gone. I want the leadership of United Way to be able to "turn on a dime" to meet the most critical needs.

It is also comforting to know that United Way of Pickens County's endowment spending policy "caps" how much of the endowment is spent each year. Currently at 4%, Jim and I have a peace of mind that our hard-earned assets will last a really long time to help struggling individuals in our community.

I owe a huge debt of gratitude to my colleague at United Way, Mark Eisengrein, because he encouraged me to get my affairs in order. This is important for everyone at any age, especially if you have children, grandchildren, or even fur babies. It's even more critical when you don't have family. Someone needs to advocate for you, and it's so much better when you have control over who that is!

Jim and I want to encourage you to join us! You don't need to be wealthy to leave a final gift to United Way of Pickens County. We've outlined ways below that you can make a charitable donation through your will. And the best thing is that it doesn't cost you a thing in your lifetime. You will be able to help individuals where you live, love and work, and impact our community long after your time on earth is over.

Finally, please call a local attorney and get your affairs in order, because tomorrow is not promised. It's the most comforting thing you can do, and your family will thank you.

HERE'S A WAY TO MAKE A FINAL GIFT THAT LIVES ON AND ON HELPING OTHERS!

By including United Way of Pickens County (UWPC) in your will, you can make a lasting difference in our community. Unless otherwise indicated, your final gift will be deposited into our Endowment Fund, where it is conservatively invested forever, and only a portion of the annual investment income will be used to support those in need.

Here are several ways that you can make a charitable donation to UWPC through your will:

- Designate a final cash gift or a percentage of your remaining assets be given to UWPC
- Identify a stock, bond, CD or even the remainder of a bank account, and request that it be donated to UWPC
- Designate real estate that you own, such as your house, rental property, a business interest, or even a vacant lot be given to UWPC
- State that your personal property of value, such as your car, jewelry or collectible artwork be given to UWPC
- Name UWPC as the beneficiary of your life insurance policy, retirement account or IRA.

When designating UWPC in your will, be sure to list: United Way of Pickens County, P.O. Box 96, Easley, SC 29641, Tax ID# 57-0476249.

HERE'S AN OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE A FREE WILL, COMPLIMENTS OF UNITED WAY!

United Way of Pickens County offers our supporters and their spouses an opportunity to create a WILL, thanks to our partnership with United Way Worldwide. And the best news is...it's **FREE!**

To create your **FREE WILL**, go to: www.freewill.com/will/getstarted to utilize the online guide that will step you through the 20-minute process. And you may want to take a copy of your WILL to a local attorney to make sure it does not conflict with any of your ideas.

DONATING APPRECIATED STOCK IS A COST-EFFECTIVE WAY TO SUPPORT YOUR CHARITIES

If you own a publically-traded stock that has appreciated in value (most stocks have appreciated), consider donating a portion (or all your shares) of that appreciated stock to United Way of Pickens County.

If you were to sell appreciated stock, you will pay capital gains tax on the appreciation. However, if you donate the stock to United Way of Pickens County, you will receive a charitable income tax deduction equal to the full fair market value of the stock at the time of the gift. And, you will avoid paying the capital gains tax.

It's a WIN-WIN situation for you (you are able to make a larger gift than normal) and for United Way of Pickens County! Please email mesiengrein@uwpickens.org for directions on how to donate stock.



You are invited to join the **Heritage Society** by pledging an estate gift to United Way of Pickens County. Unless otherwise indicated, your final gift will live on in the Endowment Fund helping those who struggle to access food, shelter, and healthcare in our community. And, you will be supporting United Way of Pickens County's bold goal that 70% of 3rd graders read at grade level. **Heritage Society** members gather annually to welcome new members, and to hear an update about the work that their annual support is making possible. If you want to help Pickens County residents in need for generations to come, simply contact Mark Eisengrein at 864-850-7094 ext. 108 or email at: mesiengrein@uwpickens.org