

# GIVING THOUGHTS

*Planning Today For Clearbrook Tomorrow*

## Parents, Volunteers and Clearbrook Supporters Give Back

When Sue and David Entwistle saw a request 20 years ago in their church bulletin for volunteers for Clearbrook's Take A Break respite program, Sue did not hesitate to sign up. "I was in the first training class for the program, which provides families with some much-needed respite each week," Sue said. "Now, I'm glad to be assisting my ninth Clearbrook family."

Sue is not only a devoted volunteer, she is a uniquely qualified one. "I knew what these families were going through firsthand because our oldest child, Michelle, has developmental delays," Sue said. "When Michelle was born, she was not gaining weight and the doctors did not really know why. When she was 9 months old, we took her to a gastroenterologist who performed surgery to alleviate her extreme acid reflux, which helped. Our son Tim was born 16 months after Michelle. So, the early years were a very emotional, stressful time. That's why I really understand what my respite families are dealing with."

Sue and David, who moved to the U.S. from England in 1982 for David's new position in medical software, turned to early intervention services for Michelle during her school years. When Michelle was 10, doctors finally diagnosed her with Costello syndrome, an extremely rare disease affecting approximately 350 people worldwide. When Michelle turned 21 and graduated from her school's transition program, Sue and David knew they needed to find an appropriate day program for her. That's when the Entwistles became more than Clearbrook volunteers—they became a Clearbrook client family.



**The Entwistle Family**

"Michelle has attended the Clearbrook Employment Services Workshop Program for about 10 years," David said. "She goes five days a week, and she thrives there." Sue added, "Outside of the Workshop, Michelle also has two part-time jobs, one at a restaurant and one with the local minor league baseball team. She is very social and enjoys being with people."

Perhaps Michelle's friendly nature is what made her move to a Clearbrook CILA last year so smooth and easy. "After some family medical scares and personal setbacks, we were aware that we won't always be around. We needed to make sure Michelle was settled in a place of her own," David explained. Sue continued, "It wasn't an easy decision to make, but it was the right time for Michelle to move and the best choice for her in the long-term. She was surprisingly receptive to the move from the

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# Smart Giving with Securities

Many people find investing in stocks, bonds and other securities over time can be an essential part of building their financial future.

You may be surprised to learn such assets can also be a wise choice when making charitable gifts. If you have owned securities for more than one year, they may be an excellent source for providing charitable support to Clearbrook and can bring about welcome tax benefits.

Here are some commonly asked questions about giving securities.

## **Q. What are the advantages of using securities to fund my gift?**

**A.** Giving noncash assets can result in especially favorable tax treatment. If you have owned securities for more than one year that have appreciated in value, you may owe a substantial capital gains tax if you sell them. But if you use these assets to fund a charitable gift to Clearbrook, you will bypass capital gains tax while enjoying a federal income tax deduction for the full value of the securities. These savings may allow you to make larger gifts than you thought possible.

## **Q. Which security should I give?**

**A.** For maximum tax benefits, it is usually best to give securities that have increased in value the most since you have owned them. Or, you may wish to give a particular security as a means of balancing or simplifying your portfolio.

## **Q. What if the securities have dropped in value?**

**A.** It is usually best to sell them, and then make a gift of the cash proceeds. You may then be able to claim tax benefits for both the capital loss and the charitable gift.

## **Q. Is it possible to give mutual funds?**

**A.** Yes, mutual funds make welcome gifts. Contact us or your financial advisor for more information.

## **Q. How do I make a gift of securities?**

**A.** It depends on whether the securities are held in a brokerage account or you have personal possession of them. For tax purposes, the gift is complete at the time of the actual transfer. Ask us or your financial advisor about the best way to complete your gift. Be sure to allow sufficient time for the completion of gifts of securities, particularly at year-end.

## **Q. What if I want to make a gift, but am reluctant to give a stock rising in value?**

**A.** Consider giving the stock and then repurchasing additional shares. By doing so, you can both give stock and, in effect, “keep” it. You will then own the same stock with a new, higher cost basis. If you sell it in the future, you will owe less tax because you have given away earlier increases. If the stock declines, you may then be able to benefit from a deductible loss.

## **Learn more**

As you can see, by giving securities, you can maximize the size of your charitable gifts to Clearbrook, conserve cash for other purposes and enjoy multiple tax benefits.

We will be happy to assist you and your advisors. Please contact us for additional, confidential information at no obligation.

## **Tax Planning Pointers**

Giving appreciated assets can make good sense from both a philanthropic and financial planning perspective.

- Gifts of appreciated securities such as stocks, bonds and mutual fund shares are generally deductible at fair market value, regardless of the original cost.
- Income tax savings can amount to 39.6\* percent of the value of the assets.
- Capital gains tax that would otherwise be due if the assets were sold can be bypassed if the assets are donated.
- Gifts of appreciated securities can serve to offset tax on up to 30 percent of your adjusted gross income.
- Unused deductions can help reduce taxes in up to five future tax years.

\* Tax savings depend upon your tax bracket and other factors

# An Unexpected Source for Giving

Using retirement funds for making charitable gifts is generally not among most people's plans at the outset. However, retirement plan assets can be a wise source from which to make your gifts, both now and in the future.

## Giving Now

**Make Tax-Free Gifts to Clearbrook from Your IRA.** If you are aged 70½ or older, you can give directly from a traditional or Roth IRA completely free of federal income tax (up to \$100,000 per person per year).

Giving directly from your IRA won't increase your adjusted gross income and possibly subject your Social Security income to a higher level of taxation. Additionally, your charitable IRA gift may count towards your required minimum withdrawal.

## Giving Later

**Make Clearbrook the Beneficiary of a Retirement Plan.** When you leave the balance of an IRA, 401(k) or 403(b) to your heirs, they must carefully manage the account to avoid losing its tax-deferred status and potentially triggering large income taxes and possible penalties.

You can simplify matters for your loved ones by directing all or a portion of what remains in your retirement accounts to charities and leaving other more tax-favored assets to your heirs. Designating a charitable beneficiary of a retirement account does not require you to change your will.

For more information about making a gift using retirement plan assets, simply return the enclosed card.



The purpose of this publication is to provide general gift, estate, and financial planning information. It is not intended as legal, accounting, or other professional advice. For assistance in planning charitable gifts with tax and other financial implications, the services of appropriate advisors should be obtained. Consult an attorney for advice if your plans require revision of a will or other legal document. Tax deductions vary based on applicable federal discount rates, which can change on a monthly basis. Some opportunities may not be available in all states. © Copyright 2017 by Sharpe Group. All Rights Reserved. NWX-17

## Give Back

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beginning. Now Michelle visits with us on weekends, and loves going back to 'her house' at Clearbrook. It's been absolutely wonderful for her."

Having experienced the compassionate care and excellent programs Clearbrook offers, Sue and David decided to make regular contributions to Clearbrook. "We make a gift on Michelle's birthday every year as a way to give something back to Clearbrook for all they have done for our family," David said. "My employer, GE, matches our gifts to Clearbrook, which effectively doubles them."

"Giving to Clearbrook is our way to thank the staff for what they do every day for Michelle and all the clients they serve," Sue noted. "The portion of your gift that goes directly to client care is amazing. David and I can't thank Clearbrook enough—they have given Michelle independence, a community of friends and a forever home."

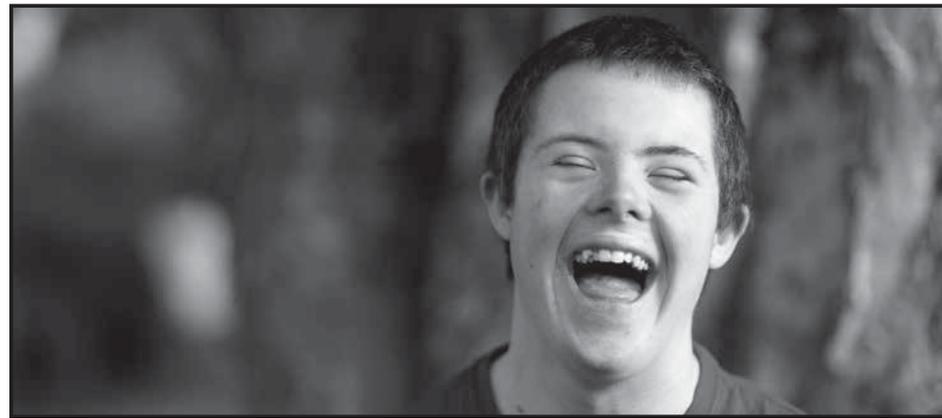


## Leave a Special Legacy to Clearbrook

# Many Ways to Leave Your Legacy

There are a number of ways you can make future gifts to favorite charitable organizations like Clearbrook, including:

- **A bequest in your will.** You can give a specific amount or property, a percentage of your estate or “what’s left” after your heirs have been provided for.
- **Life insurance proceeds.** You can name a charity to receive all or a portion of a life insurance policy that is no longer needed for its original purpose. Income and estate tax benefits can result from such a gift.
- **Retirement plans.** It’s easy to include a charitable organization like Clearbrook as a beneficiary of your retirement plan. This is a tax-wise way to make a charitable gift, as amounts remaining in these plans at death may be subject to both estate and income taxes when left to individuals. You can also make current gifts from your IRA. See Page 3 for more information.
- **Savings, checking or investment accounts.** In most states, you can name Clearbrook as beneficiary of such an account through what is known as a “pay on death” provision.
- **A gift through your living trust.** If you are using a living trust to distribute assets to loved ones, you can also include charitable gifts.
- **Real estate.** Numerous benefits can result from making a gift of real estate.



For more information on ways to include Clearbrook in your estate plans, please return the enclosed reply card or call Kelly McGraw at (847) 385-5014.

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Remembering Clearbrook in your will or trust is a wonderful way to ensure that we can continue to provide for people with disabilities into the future.

It is also easy to name Clearbrook as a beneficiary of your retirement plan, life insurance policy or bank account. It is as simple as filling out a beneficiary designation form with your bank, policy provider or plan provider.

Our legal name is:  
Clearbrook

Our tax I.D. number is:  
36-2420176

