

A Guide For Planned Giving



What is Bear Creek Services?

Bear Creek Services was started by concerned parents of children who had developmental disabilities. At that time, there were no options or services for their children.

In 1976, parents opened the first group home in SE Minnesota for people with disabilities.

In 2013, Bear Creek Independent Living Services (BCILS) was founded. This program helps people who have disabilities learn the life-skills needed to live independently, and outside of group homes.

Today, Bear Creek Services supports more than 100 people who have developmental disabilities or traumatic brain injuries.



Our mission is to support people with disabilities to live an empowered life!

Why is planned giving so important?

Nothing is more important to us than providing stability to the services we provide for people with disabilities who rely on our programs.

Planned gifts help to ensure that our programs will survive and prosper in the future.

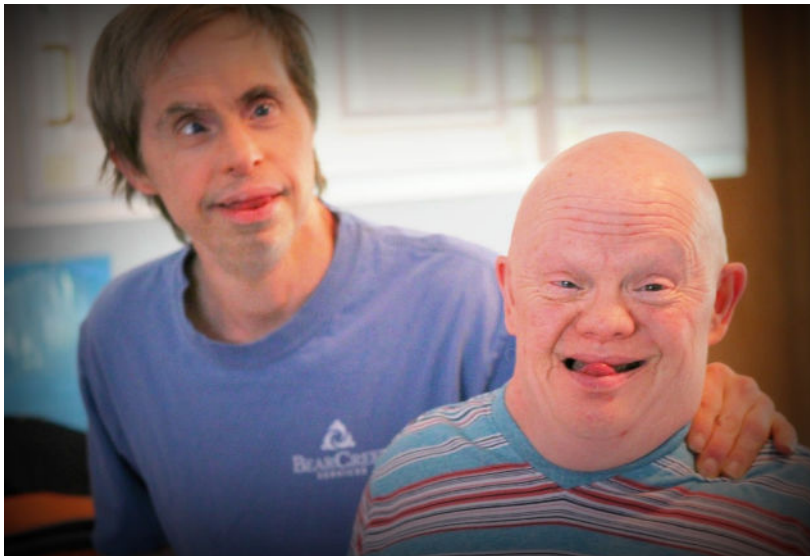
Thank you for helping Bear Creek Services sustain.

Family Pride & Naming Opportunities

We have seen family members come together with joy after learning that a loved one left a planned gift for Bear Creek Services.

Naming opportunities are an optional part of planned giving with Bear Creek Services.

If you are interested in a naming opportunity, please contact us at info@bearcreekservices.org



Douglas & Jim moved into our first group home in 1976. They have lived together for more than 45 years. They are still best friends to this day.



👍👍👍 Peyla Manor 🥰🥰🥰

The Bear Creek Services group home, formerly known as Westchester Manor, was renamed yesterday to Peyla Manor.

The new name is in memory of Tom & Pat Peyla, and their son Michael Peyla. Michael lived at our group homes for a few decades until his passing just a few years ago. Tom & Pat were very philanthropic towards our mission, and left us a planned gift in their estate planning.

Many members of the Peyla family attended the ceremony yesterday. They are appreciative of the house naming gesture and view this as a nice legacy for Tom, Pat and Michael.

We would like to thank the women who live at Peyla Manor for allowing us to visit their home yesterday, and we also thank our staff who were great hosts for this special occasion.

We are grateful to everyone! 😊



The following pages overview types of planned giving we can accept:

Bequests

Bequests are the backbone of all planned giving programs, as they are the most popular planned giving method used by donors today.

Donors like bequests because they are easy to understand and do not require the donor to part with assets during their lifetime.

Nonprofit organizations like bequests because they are easy to explain and require little cost to promote.

A bequest is a written statement in a donor's will directing that specific assets, or a percentage of their estate, be transferred to nonprofit organization after the donor's passing.

Sample Language Used When Leaving a Bequest:

"I hereby give and bequeath to Bear Creek Services of Rochester, Minnesota, the sum of \$_____ (or) _____% of my estate."

***IRA's
or
Retirement Plans***

Leaving a nonprofit beneficiary of retirement plans or IRA's are gaining in popularity among donors.

For many people, retirement plan assets represent the largest asset. Like the bequest, these are easy to understand and implement.

This gifting opportunity involves obtaining a beneficiary designation form from the retirement plan administrator and naming Bear Creek Services as the entire, or partial, beneficiary of the retirement plan asset upon the owner's passing.

A donor may achieve significant income and estate tax savings by naming a nonprofit as the beneficiary of retirement plan assets.

Current Outright Gifts

Stock

Appreciated stock represents the most common type of noncash gift people leave with planned giving.

Bear Creek Services has positive experiences selling stock gifts to fund our programs. Stocks can be sold quickly with a phone call to a broker and have market values that are easy to find.

Real Estate

Real estate is the second most common type of noncash gift nonprofits receive. Questions to ask yourself before pledging a gift of real estate include:

Does the estate have debt?

Are there liens on the real estate?

Is the donor the sole owner, or is the property jointly owned?

Can Bear Creek Services sell the property within a reasonable period of time?

Have environmental tests been conducted on the property to ensure that there are no contaminations?

Note: If the donor gives appreciated assets to Bear Creek Services, capital gains tax is avoided due to our 501C3 tax-exempt status.

Life Insurance

Life insurance can be attractive to donors because it affords donors the opportunity to make a gift at a sizeable value for a small outlay of cash. Donors may give an existing policy, a fully paid policy, a partially paid policy, or a new policy.

The proposed gift is given by naming Bear Creek Services as a beneficiary of the policy on the beneficiary designation form. Upon the donor's passing, Bear Creek Services would receive all, or a portion of, the proceeds from the policy.

Donors are entitled to a charitable income tax deduction equal to the cash surrender value of the policy, and any future premiums paid, if the nonprofit organization is named as the owner and beneficiary of the policy.

Deferred Gifts

Deferred gifts involve irrevocable transfers of cash or property that are not available to be used some time in the future.

The gift is considered complete and provides the donor to a current charitable income tax deduction. A future event such as the donor's passing, or the expiration of a set amount of time, will allow the nonprofit organization access the money.

The most prevalent types of deferred gift arrangements are charitable remainder trusts.

Charitable Gift Annuities

A charitable gift annuity is a simple contract through which a donor and / or the their designated beneficiary is provided with a stream of fixed payments for life in exchange for a charitable gift.

Example: A donor donates \$1 million to Bear Creek Services, and then receives an annual sum of \$50,000 from the fund until their passing.

Special note:

We ask that you coordinate with the Rochester Area Foundation (RAF) to set up your charitable gift annuity that will be designated for Bear Creek Services.

We have a fund with the Rochester Area Foundation to accept these gifts. Donors must be 55+ years of age and leave a gift of at least \$10,000 to leave a charitable gift annuity.

What steps should be taken if you intend to leave a planned gift to Bear Creek Services?

1) Consult your attorney or financial advisor

Allow these trusted professionals to help figure out the best means of leaving a planned gift for your unique situation.

2) If you feel comfortable doing so, contact us to let us know about your planned giving

We like to appropriately recognize and thank people for their intent to leave us a planned gift.

We understand that not everyone feels comfortable sharing this information with us. That is fine as well!