Many CCF donors naturally want to keep making an impact long into the future. They often wrestle, however, with how to plan for the possibility that their chosen causes or organizations may change or even cease to exist. Luckily, there are a number of ways for charitable giving in perpetuity to remain reliable as well as relevant.

Take Audrey Backus, for example. Audrey Royall Backus was a long-time Bel Air resident and animal lover, who created a fund at CCF as part of her will with a special emphasis on assisting people who are elderly, ill, incapacitated or unable to care for themselves. By entrusting the foundation with determining the best organizations to fulfill her wishes long into the future.

Some planned gifts don’t require adjustments. As part of her estate in 1969, another donor, Florence R. Devine, established two charitable funds and designated six organizations to receive annual grants from those funds. Forty years later, the American Cancer Society, Braille Institute, Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, L.A. Orthopaedic Hospital, Salvation Army and Volunteers of America are still fulfilling the same missions, and Ms. Devine’s wishes continue to be realized uninterrupted and unchanged, providing a steady stream of financial support to these nonprofits in perpetuity.

On the other hand, there are situations when adjustments have to be made. Polio and orphanages were major issues at the turn of the century in L.A. County that ceased to exist over time. As a result, charitable funds established at the foundation to care for orphans, for example, were revised to support local nonprofits that provide foster care support.

No matter how donors define their giving, honoring their intent and achieving impact in perpetuity is a core responsibility of community foundations.
In April 2010, CCF and 15 donors came together with local organizations to provide smart, practical solutions for two timely issues: preventing homelessness for families and addressing health hazards caused by substandard housing.

The programs have seen remarkable results: Homelessness Prevention for Families helped 90 percent of participating families stay in their homes through six nonprofit partners. Healthy Homes, Healthy Families treats housing-related illness at its root.

You Helped Prevent Homelessness, Make Healthy Homes

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The programs have seen remarkable results:
- Homelessness Prevention for Families helped 90 percent of participating families (65 of 72 total) stay in their homes through six nonprofit grantee partners, including Abode Communities, Beyond Shelter, East LA Community Corporation, L.A. Family Housing, Little Tokyo Service Center CDC and New Economics for Women.
- St. John’s Well Child and Family Center expanded its successful Healthy Homes, Healthy Kids program to include adults, providing 1,700 referrals for children and adults with housing-related health conditions. It also provided clinical care and education to more than 8,000 patients with housing-related health problems, and developed a comprehensive evaluation plan and enhancements to improve program efficiency.

These are examples of programs where the compassion of donors addresses key needs of the community with CCF. We are grateful for your support to address these urgent needs identified by our grantee partners. To learn more about the programs and read the impact reports, please visit calfund.org/impactreports.

Did you know?

The Pass It Along Fund helped 38 individuals and families with critical needs amounting to more than $68,000 in the first quarter of 2012. Of those, about 23 percent needed support to pay the security deposit on a new apartment that could address health and/or safety needs.
Inspiration Over Generations

No matter how many unemployed workers came by her home in Waukegan, Ill., requesting help, Rae Rubin generously provided a warm meal throughout the Great Depression. Word of her generosity quickly spread—and made a lasting impression on her grandson, Burt.

Burt Belzer grew up to be an influential businessman, establishing his roots with his wife, Gerry, in Los Angeles. Mr. Belzer started a successful business to service the tooling industry in 1956, now run by his son and grandson.

A native of Torrance since 1951, Mr. Belzer makes a difference himself, giving generously to support causes from his local temple to engineering scholarships. In addition to his current CCF funds, Mr.

Belzer has named CCF as the beneficiary of an IRA account to support Los Angeles in perpetuity.

His advice to other donors? “There’s an old Jewish saying, there are no pockets in shrouds. So you can’t take it with you,” he says. “It’s as simple as that. And other people need it more than you do. I learned that from my grandmother.”

INVESTING IN BLACK MALE YOUTH

by Robert Lewis, CCF Program Officer for Human Development

It’s easy to think that 17-year-old Jeremy has always been a dedicated student, basketball player, writer of music and poetry, and intent on attending college. But he had to overcome extremely tough circumstances to get there, including an abusive father, the loss of his mother when he was 10, and then one fateful night, being shot.

Jeremy knew his life would end or have to change but the question was, how? The answer was through his own hard work, his grandmother’s support, and help from a community-based organization.

Now, in a bold, new initiative, the California Community Foundation plans to help more Black male youth in L.A. turn their lives around. For the next five years, BLOOM, which stands for Building a Lifetime of Options and Opportunities for Men, will provide financial and technical support to community-based organizations serving Black teenage males, champion access to higher education and good jobs for them, and strive to begin changing the prejudice and pessimism that too many people in our community have about them. Even more dramatically, BLOOM will focus on those youth who have had a run-in with the probation system in L.A. County, hoping that low-cost remediation will reduce high-cost imprisonment.

Jeremy knew his life would end or have to change but the question was, how?

I believe BLOOM will benefit not only these kids but the entire community. As the father of a young boy, I am convinced that BLOOM is necessary and urgent. And as the director of BLOOM, I welcome your interest and support.

For more information, please contact me at (213) 452-6273 or rlewis@calfund.org, or visit calfund.org/bloom.

*NName changed for privacy

NAMING CHARITY AS IRA BENEFICIARY

One of the simplest ways to plan a legacy gift is to name a charity as the beneficiary of an IRA or life insurance policy. Especially if your loved ones are otherwise taken care of, an IRA or life insurance policy can be one of the easiest ways to convert dollars that might otherwise be heavily taxed into a gift to benefit your community and a cause that is important to you. Read more about the benefits at calfund.org/ira
L.A. has 19,000 active nonprofits addressing the world’s needs, causes, issues and challenges – but here in our own backyard.

Would you like to see these nonprofits make a long-term impact?

By giving to a nonprofit through a planned gift or estate plan, you give them hope for the future. CCF can be the intermediary to help ensure that your gift is used as you intended.

To discuss your future giving in Los Angeles and beyond, contact Nichole Baker at (213) 452-6241 or nbaker@calfund.org.

The public foundation for individuals, families and organizations in Los Angeles County since 1915.

CCF does not provide legal or tax advice. All donors and advisors should consult their tax advisors to properly determine the tax consequences of making a charitable gift to the California Community Foundation.

Contributions to the California Community Foundation represent irrevocable gifts subject to the legal and fiduciary control of the foundation’s board of directors.