

PARTNERS FOR Tomorrow

Financial & Gift
Planning Ideas
for Friends
of SPCA
International



SPCA
INTERNATIONAL

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ANIMAL
RESCUE

Fall 2017

Will Congress Change Your Estate Plans?

These days it's virtually impossible to watch television, read a newspaper or go online without coming across information about possible revisions in our nation's tax laws. In this environment, it can be challenging to know the best course of action when making future financial plans.

If income, estate and gift tax changes do occur, it is important to determine what they mean for you and how they may affect your estate and financial plans.

Fortunately, one thing IS certain: In terms of the actual documents, Congress cannot change your will, trust or other plans.

More information

In this issue of *Partners for Tomorrow*, we share information we hope you find helpful as you consider your own situation. Please don't hesitate to contact us for more information, confidentially and with no obligation, if we can help with the charitable aspects of your plans.

For more information about creative ways to make SPCA International a part of your legacy, visit our website at:

www.spcai.givingplan.net



INSIDE

How to Begin
Your Planning

Once You Have a Plan
in Place...

How to Begin Your Planning

Contact your professional advisors for a review of your existing estate plan. They can advise you on any changes you need to make to address your planning goals and any tax implications. Provide your advisors with current information such as your marital status, state of residence, employment status and other vital information that may impact your plans. Maintaining an up-to-date will or trust will give you peace of mind that your property will be distributed according to your wishes.

Review beneficiary designations on life insurance policies, retirement accounts, bank accounts and investment accounts. Make sure they are current and are coordinated with your overall estate and financial plans.

Think about your charitable intentions and make sure they are addressed in your plans. Many choose to include SPCA International with a legacy gift. Obtain professional guidance as to the best options available to achieve your goals.

Take advantage of certain tax incentives while they are in place. Income and capital gains tax rates, allowable deductions, as well as gift and estate tax rates typically remain unchanged until Congress introduces or passes new legislation. We are happy to discuss with you suggestions for the best way to make your gifts now or in advance of any future changes.

Provide for your pet in the future through what is known as a pet trust. Much like a trust established for the care of a minor child, the trustee you name for a pet trust is legally obligated to act in the animal's best interest and ensure your desires for your pet's future care are met. The assets you leave in the trust can be used for anything related to the care and well-being of your animal. From food and treats to veterinary bills, a pet trust will ensure that your pet is taken care of in the ways that you specify. While the majority of states permit some form of a pet trust, details and limitations vary. It is best to check with your attorney about local laws.

Family First

Your will and estate plans allow you to provide for those closest to your heart. And with careful estate planning, you can make gifts to SPCA International and other charities without sacrificing the security of your loved ones—including your pets. That is why we encourage you to take care of your loved ones first when preparing or updating your will and other plans, and then consider remembering SPCA International with a gift of all or part of the remainder of your estate. This means your family and friends will always come first.



Once You Have a Plan in Place...

Revisit your plans periodically to make sure they remain up-to-date. It's best not to delay until an event in your life or changes in tax laws occur to assess your plans—make a review part of your yearly routine. Every review may not result in the need to make a change or an addition; however, doing this consistently will give you peace of mind that your plans are current.

Adjust your plans accordingly if changes do occur. Seek the advice of your professional advisors if there are tax law revisions that will affect your plans.

Be smart about your charitable giving. For instance, if you enjoy an increase in the value of securities you own, consider using them—instead of cash—to fund your charitable gifts. This will often bring added savings at tax time. Did you recently turn 70½? If so, you can use your IRA to make tax-free charitable gifts. Or, if you are planning for retirement, consider giving in ways that can supplement your income for life or for a term of years.

Learn more

We are happy to discuss charitable options with you and offer ways to continue your support of SPCA International in the future.

Our Legal Name:
SPCA International

Our Tax ID:
#87-0773320



5 Reasons to Give Appreciated Property at the End of the Year

When considering how to make your year-end gift, you may want to use long-term appreciated property (stocks, bonds and mutual funds that you have owned longer than one year and that have risen in value). This makes good sense from a financial planning perspective. Here's why:

1. You may **deduct the full value** of the stock instead of what you paid for it.
2. You **bypass any capital gains tax** you would owe if you sold the asset.
3. You can **repurchase the same asset** and enjoy a new, higher cost basis.
4. Your deduction may **reduce taxes** in as many as five future years.
5. You **conserve your cash** for other purposes.

Leaving a Legacy to SPCA International

Gifts to SPCA International are often included in the wills and trusts of those who want to continue their support in the future and make us part of their legacy. There are a number of ways to accomplish this goal:

The residue. You can make charitable gifts from what is left after all other gifts to loved ones have been fulfilled. Giving “what’s left” to SPCA International does not affect your family’s future security. See the box at right for sample bequest language you may want to share with your attorney.

A specific amount. You designate that a particular dollar amount be transferred to SPCA International and other causes you care about.

A percentage. A percentage of your estate can be designated for charitable purposes, thus ensuring that your gifts remain in proportion to bequests to other loved ones and charitable interests.

We welcome the opportunity to discuss more options and provide information on the charitable aspects of your plans. Contact us, return the enclosed card or visit our website at spcai.givingplan.net.



Improving the lives of animals all around the world is at the heart of SPCA International’s mission. We couldn’t do it without your support!

Sample Bequest Language

Many of our friends choose to include SPCA International in their wills or other estate plans. Below is some suggested wording to take to your attorney to ensure your wishes are followed.

“After fulfilling all other provisions, I give, devise and bequeath ____% of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate [or \$____ if a specific amount] as a charitable contribution to SPCA International, Federal Tax ID #87-0773320, 242 West 30th Street, Suite 1503, New York, NY 10001.”

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

CONTACT US:



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