

Four County Community Foundation – Suggested Will and Trust Language

Suggested will language:

One suggestion that some estate planners have for charitable gifts is to insert the following clause in every will that includes a charitable bequest:

I instruct that all of my charitable gifts, bequests, and devises shall be made, to the extent possible, from property that constitutes “income in respect of a decedent” as that term is defined in the Internal Revenue Code.

General will language:

I direct that all remaining assets comprising my estate (or a percentage, fixed amount, or particular asset) shall be distributed to Four County Community Foundation, Almont, Michigan, with the request that such funds would be used for purposes I may have from time to time recommended to Four County Community Foundation in writing during my lifetime.

General trust language:

I direct that all remaining assets comprising the trust estate (or a percentage, fixed amount, or particular asset) shall be distributed to Four County Community Foundation, Almont, Michigan, with the request that such funds would be used for purposes I may have from time to time recommended to Four County Community Foundation in writing during my lifetime.

The wording in the general language paragraphs is the preferred language because it allows your clients to address multiple charitable interests and provides the opportunity for them to revise their wishes easily without incurring the costs of a codicil being added to a will or revising a trust document. However, if your client desires to have the name of the fund(s) included, examples for specific fund types are available along with wording that is appropriate for a gift to an existing fund.

