



A Lasting Legacy – Wills and Bequests

Remember the Causes and People You Care About Most

Leaving a bequest through your will is the easiest and most important way to help the charitable causes you care about.

What is a Bequest?

A bequest is a thoughtful way to make a significant gift to Casey House Foundation without affecting your current finances.

Gifts by will, or bequests, are a significant and vital source of revenue for Casey House Foundation, enabling us to continue to be leaders in treatment, support and palliative care for men and women living with HIV/AIDS.

Types of Bequests

A **specific bequest** is where Casey House Foundation receives a specific piece or amount of property for example, a sum of money or other assets.

A **residual bequest** is where Casey House Foundation receives all or a fraction of whatever remains of your estate after all debts, taxes, administrative expenses and specific bequests have been paid or distributed.

A **contingent bequest** only takes effect if the primary intention cannot be met (for example, if the named beneficiary does not survive the donor).

Benefits include:

- Your cash resources won't be affected while you need them.
- You retain full control of your assets during your lifetime.
- A bequest ensures your gift will be used to provide the very best treatment, support and palliative care to people living with HIV/AIDS.
- The beneficiary designation is revocable meaning it can be changed if your financial and/or life circumstances change.

- The final taxes to be paid on your estate may be significantly reduced, which can be a significant advantage for your heirs and a great comfort to you.

There are different types of bequests so you can choose the one that best suits your circumstances and wishes. You can donate a specific gift amount, or contribute all or a percentage of your estate's assets to Casey House Foundation.

Casey House Foundation can provide you with suggested wording that will assist you in discussions with your lawyer. Please e-mail thatten@caseyhouse.on.ca to request a copy.

What Happens If You Don't Have a Will?

In Canada, if you die without a will you are considered to have died "intestate." Simply put, this means that your provincial government, not you, decides how your assets will be divided.

Each province has intestacy rules that define your estate's beneficiaries and how much each is to receive. Usually, this means your legal spouse and biological and adopted children.

The definition of "spouse" varies from province to province. Most provincial intestacy rules do not recognize common-law spouse status, so he or she may be left out of the estate entirely if you die without a will.

Regardless of your family situation, intestacy does not take into consideration any intentions you may have for the distribution of your estate. For your peace of mind today and your family's peace of mind tomorrow, making or updating your will is an easy, inexpensive solution.

What Are My Next Steps?

1. Create a will that reflects your wishes. You can make your bequest in honor or in memory of someone special.
2. If you already have a will and are considering a bequest to Casey House Foundation, the easiest and least expensive way to make a small change in your existing will is to add a codicil. The codicil will retain all the provisions of your will, except those which are modified by this addition.
3. Make an appointment with your lawyer to draft or revise your will. Your lawyer will help you with the key information and details. Casey House Foundation has sample wording available to assist you and your lawyer.
4. Contact Casey House Foundation to inform us of your gift to ensure we are able to honour your gift intention as you wish.

We're Here to Help

Should you decide to make a bequest through your will to Casey House Foundation, we hope you will share your decision with us so that we can express our gratitude today. Your gift intention will be held in strictest confidence.

The correct legal name to include in your will is:
Casey House Foundation
119 Isabella Street, Toronto ON M4Y 1P2
Charitable Business Number: 10687 8374 RR0001

For More Information

Contact Tracy Hatten at 416-962-4040 ext. 4003 or thatten@caseyhouse.ca to discuss your particular situation and to ask any questions you may have about supporting us with a bequest.

Let's work together so that your philanthropic intentions will be honoured.

This information and material is intended to provide general examples and reference tools for understating the way in which charitable gifts may be made to Casey House Foundation and is for illustration purposes only. Casey House Foundation does not give legal or financial advice. Casey House Foundation strongly recommends donors review this information and material and consult with independent legal, financial and/or tax advisors. This will ensure you receive appropriate legal advice, your financial goals are considered, your tax situation reviewed and your legacy gift is otherwise tailored to your personal circumstances.

Privacy Statement

Casey House Foundation protects the privacy of all of the information that you share with us. The personal information that you provide to Casey House Foundation will be used to provide tax receipts, to contact you regarding your gift, and to keep you informed of other Casey House and Casey House Foundation events. Casey House maintains a strict policy of honouring donor privacy. Under no circumstances will Casey House share, trade, or sell any of our donor information.