Dear Professional Advisors,

We send our best wishes to you as everyone in our community continues to grapple with the profound shock and sorrow of having ten members of our community taken from their loved ones and our community on March 22. We are sorry for the worry and sadness of these days and hope more daylight provides some hope and brightness as 2021 continues to unfold.

A privilege of working at the Community Foundation during a time of crisis is that we observe first-hand the generosity of community members here in Boulder County as well as concerned citizens from across the state, country and world. We’ve received more than 10,000 gifts since the shootings on March 22, from $6 to $50,000. Donations have come in many forms: from on-line gifts and mailed checks to transfers of appreciated stock, minimum required distributions from IRAs and grants from commercial donor advised funds (or direct grants from the donor advised funds we hold). We have been stunned by the outpouring of generosity.

We are always grateful to have you, our community of professional advisors, as partners - and never more than in times of crisis like this one. Please don't hesitate to call if you have questions about our current Boulder County Crisis Fund, our Fires Relief Fund, or our COVID-19 Response Fund.

Thank you for your partnership. We look forward to seeing you in person in the coming months.

Warmly,
Lynda

In sync on giving: Lawmakers from both parties support expansion of CARES Act deduction

Four Republican Senators, four Democratic Senators, a House Democrat, and a House Republican have introduced legislation to expand the increased charitable deduction cap for non-itemizers to up to one-third of the standard deduction. The Universal Giving Pandemic Response and Recovery Act (S.618/H.R.1704) also extends this temporary $300 deduction, which was included in the original CARES Act, through 2022 and enhances the provision to include gifts to donor-advised funds.

Preliminary reports suggest that the so-called “universal charitable deduction” is already showing signs of success in encouraging more people to give to charitable organizations. For example, AFP’s Fundraising Effectiveness Project reports a 28% increase of $300 gifts made on December 31, 2020. Considering that $300 is the precise amount of the maximum a non-itemizer can deduct, this does not seem to be a coincidence. AFP also reports that gifts of $250 or less
The inclusion of donor-advised funds as qualified recipients of universal charitable giving is an important breakthrough and recognition that donor-advised fund vehicles are powerful tools to increase effective charitable giving. Especially when paired with the expertise and resources uniquely available through the community foundation, a donor-advised fund can be a critically important component of the philanthropic strategy for an individual, family, or business.

April showers: Puddles to avoid as you navigate tax deadline extensions

Your clients most certainly are aware that the Internal Revenue Service and the Treasury Department have extended the federal income tax filing and payment deadline for the 2020 tax year from April 15, 2021 to May 17, 2021.

Be aware, however, that clients might overlook the fact that this extension applies only to individual taxpayers. And although the May 17, 2021 deadline does apply to individuals who pay self-employment tax, it does not apply to estimated tax payments (still due on April 15) or withholding. The extension also does not apply to nonprofits and business entities, so it’s business as usual on April 15 for entities filing Forms 1120 and 990. In addition, individuals still must comply with state filing deadlines, to which an extension may or may not apply.

In case you missed it...

Boulder County Crisis Fund

We experienced a horrific tragedy and are heartbroken. Ten cherished friends and neighbors, including a member of our police force, were taken from us.

Read more
www.commfound.org

Community Foundation welcomes new trustees

The new additions are tax attorney J.M. Scott Beard, Jr., J.D. LLM; higher education administrator Fernando R. Guzman III, Ph.D.; business coach Carey Mason; and retired philanthropic foundation executive Julie Rogers.

Read more
www.commfound.org

Giving together: Factors to consider when representing couples

The community foundation can help as you work with a couple to design a charitable giving plan that will create rewarding philanthropic experiences for both partners. Indeed, in Giving as a Couple, Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors reinforces
the tenets we maintain as a team at the community foundation when we are working with a couple to develop and activate a charitable giving strategy that matches the couple’s goals and values.

For example:

- Our team strives to understand why your clients want to give together as a couple, rather than “dividing and conquering” as individuals.
- Our team seeks to deeply understand your clients’ perspectives on roles and control so that we can help structure a process that will allow both partners to be active decision-makers. In certain cases, a couple will ask the community foundation to act as a mediator, or even a tiebreaker, in the event that the partners are in the midst of an amicable debate about a particular community impact strategy or charitable gift.
- Our team helps couples decide on financial levels of current and legacy giving that will achieve the couple’s philanthropic goals in harmony with their goals for children and grandchildren’s personal inheritances and involvement in the family’s legacy philanthropy.

Especially if you are representing couples that include women, it’s worth checking out Women Give 2021: How Households Make Giving Decisions, a study released last month by Women’s Philanthropy Institute at the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy. The authors of the study observed notable trends in how partners--not just women--approach giving. For example, according to the report:

- More than 61% of couples make charitable giving decisions jointly.
- When decisions are made by one member of a couple, and that couple includes one woman, the woman is more likely to be that decision maker.
- Couples tend to agree on the amount and recipients of their philanthropic investments.

As always, the team at the community foundation looks forward to supporting you as you help your clients achieve their family philanthropy goals.

Meet your Community Foundation team

We’re pleased to work with professional advisors around Boulder County to ensure your clients receive stellar service and a personalized approach to actualizing their philanthropic goals and related tax savings. With our practice of working in partnership, knowledge of local issues and the philanthropic landscape, and commitment to impact, we’re your best resource for donor-advised funds and planned giving. Please contact us to learn how we can assist you and your clients now and into next year.

Members of our Philanthropic Services Team:

- Lynda Ricketson, Vice President of Philanthropic Services
- Peggy Driscoll, Philanthropic Services Officer
- Brooke Kahl, Philanthropic Services Associate
- Caroline Landry, Philanthropic Services Officer
- Matt Zwiebel, Director, Pledge 1% Colorado

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Community Foundation Boulder County is committed to being a community catalyst for good, alongside donors and partners like you. We believe our community is stronger when all people - women and men, children, older adults, immigrants, people of color, LGBTQ+ individuals, those with varying abilities and from all faiths - are respected, welcomed, and invited to share their assets and contributions in community building.

We stand with others, in Boulder County and beyond, who courageously strive to build more inclusive communities rather than walls of division. We remain wholeheartedly committed to social justice for our most marginalized and vulnerable people and for the care of threatened environments. We believe in the power of art and music to improve our lives and community. Now, more than ever, we seek opportunities for local action and invite you to join us in our ongoing leadership work that includes grantmaking, outreach, and advocacy. We accomplish more together than we do alone.

Donating to your Community Foundation makes a local impact. Get inspired. Donate here.