Stories of giving

Ideas to involve family and friends in your charitable giving

Our donors often share common themes about charitable giving. Foremost among them, giving brings donors joy, and intentional giving can take time. Taking the time to discuss, define and engage others around our giving goals—while rewarding and necessary—can also be challenging.

Consider these ideas from Thrivent Charitable Impact & Investing® (Thrivent Charitable) donors to inspire your giving plan and open your mind to possibilities.

**Monica’s multi-generational fund**

Monica established a multi-generational fund to engage the women in her family in the giving process. Together, they decided to financially help women and children. Each year, they gather on Valentine’s Day to share a piece of their hearts and continue the family’s legacy of giving—a value that Monica’s mother taught her and one she’s sharing with her family.

**Separate funds for each child**

A mother established separate donor-advised funds for each of her school-aged children. She periodically engages them about giving principles, and each year on her late husband’s birthday, she talks to them about her own donor-advised fund. Remembering their father offers an opportunity to celebrate the abundance of what they have to give—each in their own unique way.

**A ‘sister act’ of giving**

One sister resides in the U.S. The other lives in New Zealand. Although they each make decisions about the charities support through their shared donor-advised fund, they come together regularly on the beaches of New Zealand to share stories about their father and the charitable fund he passed on to them. The two find joy in this tradition of remembering their father and how he enabled them to live more generously through their Thrivent Charitable family fund.
Giving thanks while giving back

Sandra and Jon wanted to create a tradition that would bring the family together, create memories and pass on the value of giving. When their first grandchild turned eight, they planned a trip, but kept the location a surprise until the day before they departed. Since then, each grandchild—and there are now 16 between the ages of 8 and 18—takes part in this annual trip. Sandra and Jon’s charitable fund, The 8 and Over Fund, was established in honor of this tradition. Each Thanksgiving, Sandra and Jon’s grandchildren select charities to benefit from the fund.

Sharing gifts of the season

Each Christmas, the Psalm 37:4 Fund family advisors give each of their children, spouses and grandchildren the opportunity to grant $200 to a charity of their choice. When the family comes together for the holidays, they discuss their charitable selections and why each was picked, resulting in an inspiring experience. Their Christmas tradition helps them focus on the legacy of their great-grandparents and their gift of family farmland used to create this donor-advised fund.

Family gatherings offer occasions to explore and share values.

Zane’s parents established a donor-advised fund that is now advised by him and his siblings. He found an unexpected opportunity to engage loved ones about giving at a family funeral. In addition to bringing the grieving family together, it gave Zane the opportunity to engage his siblings, nieces and nephews in a giving conversation. Together, they shared memories of their parents and grandparents, and how their life stories embodied integrating values, family and finances. It easily led into a conversation about giving.

Looking for ways to spark a conversation about generosity?

Contact your financial advisor, visit us at thriventcharitable.com or call us at 800-365-4172.