



WORKING TOGETHER AS A FAMILY

Giving as a family often requires the same level of thought as operating a business. Being clear about your objectives, participation, and operations will keep your family moving forward in a positive way and will allow you to focus on giving and not the process details.

IDENTIFYING SHARED INTERESTS

Each family as well as each individual has their own unique set of experiences that shape your choices. These influence what is meaningful to you as a family and as an individual. Experiences, decisions, and lifestyles will vary amongst participants, so it's important to consider and respect what each person brings to the family. Discovering what that truly inspires you as a family will help you to make a stronger impact with your giving.

DEFINING FAMILY AND PARTICIPATION

Every family is unique in the way each person engages and how decisions are made. Families also have varying definitions of who should be included in their family giving structure. Will it include any extended family, spouses, and grandchildren? Giving serious thought about who is involved in your family giving process, what each person's role is, and how decisions are made will ensure that each member has a voice in your giving decisions and has a fulfilling experience.

PARTICIPATING WITH FLEXIBILITY

Family members may need to be involved at differing levels depending on their talents, time, and personal preferences. We all experience personal and professional demands on our time and resources that vary throughout the year and over our lifetimes. Have the understanding that members may be allowed to enter or leave the charitable process so that giving together doesn't become a burden as people's lives and obligations change.

PERSONAL INVOLVEMENT

There are many ways to engage family members in philanthropy in a personal way depending on their age, level of involvement, or passions. Children and young adults can organize small fundraisers or set aside part of their allowance for charity. You can also volunteer as a family, spend time together at a local museum, or see the symphony together. Incorporating these activities in your lives will reinforce your commitment to giving, and it will provide opportunities to grow together as a family.

HOW WE CAN HELP YOU

- Use our Giving Plan worksheet to identify individual members' values, interests, and experiences so that together we can explore your common interest areas and create a family mission statement.
- Help design your giving structure – how often you meet as a family, how meetings are run, and how to involve various family members.
- Guide you through the grant-making process from proposal gathering, research and due diligence, choosing grant recipients, distributing funds, and evaluating the effectiveness of your giving. We can even manage this process for you if you like.
- Take over the administrative work of family giving, so that the family can focus on the reward of giving together without concern for other unnecessary hassles.



Omaha Community
Foundation

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL (402) 342-3458
OR VISIT OMAHAFUNDATION.ORG.