

# 5 REASONS YOUR IRA MAY BE YOUR BEST GIFT TO CHARITY

Whether you plan to leave money to charity during your lifetime or as part of your estate, gifting traditional IRA assets offers several key benefits. Here's why your retirement savings might be your most powerful giving option.

1

## Inherited IRAs Are Heavily Taxed

Most beneficiaries are required to withdraw the entire account balance within 10 years and must pay regular income tax on the withdrawals. Larger accounts may even push the recipient into a higher tax bracket and trigger unintended tax consequences. Charities, on the other hand, can receive the full amount tax-free.

2

## Other Assets Are More Favorable For Family

Gifts of highly appreciated stock and real estate are more tax-efficient for your heirs. The cost basis of these assets is adjusted to the current fair market value upon your death, erasing any capital gains that accrued during your lifetime.

3

## IRA Gifts Can Cut Your Taxes Now

IRA owners over the age of 70 ½ can make tax-free distributions from a traditional or inherited IRA directly to charity. These transfers also count toward any required minimum distributions, reducing your taxable income for the year. In 2025, the limit for Qualified Charitable Distributions is \$108,000 per person. (QCDs cannot support donor-advised funds.)

4

## IRAs Can Fund Simplified Giving Tools

If you support the same charities every year, consider streamlining your giving by using your retirement assets to create a designated fund at Akron Community Foundation. You can establish your fund with a tax-free transfer from your IRA and then select up to five nonprofits that will receive distributions in perpetuity.

5

## Retirement Gifts Preserve Your Legacy

If your children are financially secure, donating a portion of your retirement assets can be a meaningful way to advance the causes you're passionate about while building a family legacy. Learn how Akron Community Foundation can help at [akroncf.org/IRA](https://akroncf.org/IRA).

\$330 million in assets  
70 years of experience  
900+ charitable funds

As of July 31, 2025



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