



## INVEST IN GIRLS. CHANGE THE WORLD. GIVING OPTIONS

By William Finestone, Esq., Planned Giving Volunteer

Planning comes naturally to Girl Scouts alumnae and volunteers. So does giving back.

Friends of Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles choose to support its many programs through a variety of options. Here we have summarized some of the more popular giving options and other alternative plans that are available to realize the greatest personal and financial satisfaction from investing in girls who will become the next generation female leaders.

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**Immediate Gifts:** Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles is grateful for annual donations that enable us to serve low-income girls, augment program costs, train and support volunteers, and maintain camp properties.

### OPTION 1: Cash

A cash gift is the easiest and most popular direct way to support a charity. We are recognized by the IRS as a tax-exempt charitable organization, and therefore, your donation is tax-deductible to the full extent allowable by law. [Click here to make a gift online.](#)

### OPTION 2: Securities and Real Estate

Gifts of appreciated property such as securities and real estate can provide even greater tax benefits to you than an equivalent cash gift if you have owned the appreciated property for more than one year. Eliminating capital gain tax liability, removing the asset from your taxable estate, and generating an income tax deduction are some of the benefits available when a gift of appreciated property is made.

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**Planned Gifts:** Through planning, you affirm your values and create a legacy. We are proud to recognize those who have named Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles as a beneficiary of a Will, Trust, retirement, or insurance plan through our **Juliette Gordon Low Society**. Society members are listed in our annual report and receive a beautiful lapel pin, VIP updates, and invitations to events.

### OPTION 3: Bequests

Bequests allow donors to make gifts they may not have been able to make during their lifetimes. Bequests are especially important for our long range needs. You may make a bequest by preparing a new Will or Trust, or by adding a Codicil or Amendment to your present Will or Trust, or by designating Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles as beneficiary of all or part of your retirement plan, or in other convenient ways.

- **A residuary bequest:** You can give all or part of the property remaining in your estate after debts, expenses, and specific bequests are paid. Such provisions can be made as follows: “I give (all, or \_\_\_\_\_ percent of) the (residue of my estate/undistributed balance of the trust estate) to Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles, 801 S. Grand Ave., Ste. 300, Los Angeles, California, to be used for its general purposes.”
- **A specific bequest:** You can establish a bequest of a particular dollar amount or asset. The language for this type of provision is as follows: “I give (dollar amount or description of gift) to Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles, 801 S. Grand Ave., Ste. 300, Los Angeles, California, to be used for its general purposes.”

#### OPTION 4: Charitable Gift Annuity

A charitable gift annuity is a special gift that keeps on giving. In exchange for your gift of cash or appreciated securities, you receive fixed income during your retirement years. The gift annuity rate varies based on your age. You also benefit from an immediate charitable income tax deduction, and a significant portion of the annuity payments is tax-free.

#### OPTION 5: Life Insurance

Many people own some form of life insurance because of its unique ability to meet a variety of needs for financial protection. You can name us as the primary beneficiary or as a successor beneficiary of a life insurance policy. When we receive the proceeds, your estate will be allowed an estate tax charitable deduction. Or, you may wish to give us a policy you no longer need and receive an immediate income tax deduction for the value of that policy.

#### OPTION 6: Charitable Remainder Trusts

As an alternative to an outright bequest, you may wish to consider establishing a charitable remainder trust (“CRT”) during your lifetime or through your estate plan. CRTs have special tax advantages and can provide income for you and/or other beneficiaries. A CRT names one or more beneficiaries for life or for a term of years, after which time the assets are distributed to Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles. An income tax deduction is available at the time the CRT is established during your life; an estate tax deduction is available at your death whether you establish the CRT during your life or via your Will or Trust.

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*We would appreciate knowing if you have included us as beneficiaries of your Will, Trust, retirement or insurance plans, because that knowledge offers us the opportunity to recognize and thank you as a member of **Juliette Gordon Low Society** and plan for the future. We honor all requests for confidentiality.*

*Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles’ Director of Development, Chris Dean, will be delighted to work with you and your advisors in arranging the gift plan that offers you the opportunity to realize the greatest personal and financial satisfaction from your gift. She may be reached at (626) 677- 2264 or [cdean@girlscoutsla.org](mailto:cdean@girlscoutsla.org).*