



# Why Establish an Endowment

Aurora Health Care Foundation is the fiduciary agent for endowments supporting the hospitals and programs of Aurora Health Care. Like blocks of granite, endowment funds last and last. Generations from now, hospital leadership and staff—and the people they serve—will benefit from your foresight and generosity.

In a sense, your endowment gift etches your name in stone and conveys your values for years to come. Unlike annual funds, which are used in the short term, endowment funds are held forever. The Foundation invests endowment funds for long-term stability and growth, and each year makes a portion of any earnings available to support the purposes of the endowment.

Endowments create stable funding sources for our hospitals and programs. Often the expression of donor interests, experiences and passions, endowments can be transformational in nature. The funds provide a baseline of support and help us look to the future with greater confidence. They also inspire others to become involved in supporting our health care mission.

## How to Establish an Endowment

To create an endowment at Aurora Health Care Foundation, you may give a lump sum or over a period of time. (There are minimum amounts for endowments depending on the level.) You can also fund an endowment through a bequest or life-income gifts like a charitable trust or charitable gift annuity. By establishing an endowment, you also will provide a new giving opportunity for those who share your passion for the mission of the endowment. We welcome the opportunity to assist you in considering whether this type of gift is a satisfying way for you to fulfill your philanthropic intentions.

## For more information:

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# How to Fund an Endowment

“Only the super rich can create endowments.” Has this thought kept you from considering the creation of your own endowment fund at Aurora Health Care Foundation to benefit your favorite Aurora hospital or program? If so, the next few paragraphs may change your mind. You’ll discover that nearly anyone, with a little planning, can establish an endowment or make a significant contribution to one. Consider these options:

## Do It Now

Some folks prefer to establish their endowments now so they can enjoy watching them grow and benefit their chosen hospital or program.

**Cash.** Finding enough cash to launch an endowment is rarely possible. But sometimes we receive an unexpected windfall through an inheritance or the larger-than-expected proceeds from the sale of a valuable asset. It may also be helpful to know that the Foundation permits a donor to fund an endowment over a five-year period. Spreading cash gifts over several years may also have tax benefits for you.

**Securities.** Do you have publicly traded stock that is highly appreciated in value but low in dividend

return? Why not use this to start your endowment? Since the Foundation can sell your stock without incurring a capital gains tax, it may be the perfect funding method for you.

**Tangible Property.** Real and personal property can be a source of endowment funding. We will sell the property and place the proceeds in your endowed fund.

## Do It Later

While it may not be feasible to start an endowment now, your estate will likely have enough resources at your death. Consider these possibilities:

**A Bequest from your Will.** The most popular way to fund a future endowment is to include a gift in your will for this purpose. If you do decide to create an endowment through a bequest, please talk with our gift planning team to make sure your attorney uses our proper legal name and address.

**The Remainder of a Trust.** Donors sometimes establish a trust during life to provide themselves with ongoing income. When they are gone, whatever remains in the trust is disbursed according to

instructions in the trust document. This, of course, can include the funding of an endowment with the Foundation. Trusts are popular as estate planning tools and may provide you with an excellent way to establish your endowment.

**Insurance Proceeds.** Do you have a life insurance policy you no longer need for protection? You could sign part or all of the policy over to the Foundation for the purpose of creating an endowment when you are gone.

## Do It Now and Later

You may want to start your endowment now, modestly, and then add to it later through your estate plan. This way you could see the fund in operation and enjoy seeing the good it does.

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