

WAYS TO GIVE – A COMPARISON

	Starting a Donor-Advised Fund at the FMAF	Starting a Private Foundation	Giving Directly to a Favorite Charity
Set-up Time	Can be established immediately with as little as one day for paperwork	Typically takes several weeks, and often a few months to create	N/A
Start-up Costs (e.g., legal and accounting fees)	None / Typically none (often covered by sponsoring charity)	Typical costs of creating a corporation (legal, accounting, etc.) / Legal fees and other start-up costs can be substantial	N/A
Annual Costs	Total fees less than 2%	Extensive administrative, legal and investment costs	N/A
Initial Gift Minimum	\$5,000	\$5-\$10 million recommended	None
Record Keeping / Accounting	Provided by FMAF staff	All services arranged by private foundation staff	N/A
Administrative Support	Provided by FMAF professional staff	None, must hire private foundation staff	N/A
Tax Deduction Limits for Gifts of Cash*	50% of adjusted gross income	30% of adjusted gross income	50% of adjusted gross income
Tax Deduction Limits for Gifts of Stock or Real Property*	30% of adjusted gross income	20% of adjusted gross income	30% of adjusted gross income
Annual Tax Filings and Returns / Taxes	Not required (part of FMAF annual reporting)	Must be filed by private foundation staff	None
Excise Taxes / Annual Taxes	None	Excise tax of 1% to 2% of net investment income annually	None
(Donor) Control of Grants, Distributions and Assets	FMAF carries out donor's wishes via grant recommendations, subject to FMAF board approval.	Donor has complete control of all grantmaking and investment decisions, subject to self-dealing rules	Donor can request restrictions on gift, but charity has final say
Grantmaking Strategy Assistance; Information on Community Issues	Yes – if donor desires	None – must hire private foundation staff	N/A
Ability to Give to Multiple Nonprofits and Causes	Yes	Yes	No
Required Payout	None	Must expend 5% of net assets value annually	N/A
Privacy and Confidentiality	Yes – donor can choose anonymity both in giving and grantmaking	No / Must file detailed and public tax returns on grants, investment fees, trustee fees, staff salaries, etc.	Yes-donor can choose anonymity
Governance, Oversight, and	FMAF board of directors /	Private foundation board of	Charity's board of directors

Succession	Donor(s) may be or name advisors to recommend grants	directors / No restrictions regarding who serves on the board	
Perpetuity	Can exist in perpetuity	Can exist in perpetuity	N/A
Investments	Active board oversight, record of long-term growth by top-tier investment managers	Private foundation staff must oversee, management could be costly, depending on assets	Charity non required to invest gift for growth

*Any unused deductions may be carried forward up to five (5) additional years