Amplify Your Impact
Donor and Private Foundation Services
Partner with GCF to make powerful, meaningful change

Together with our donors, Greater Cincinnati Foundation (GCF) is leading the charge toward a more vibrant region for everyone — now, and for generations to come.

We do this in three ways:

1. We empower people with philanthropic interests to support issues they care about.
2. We invest in effective nonprofits to change the outcomes.
3. We lead in helping our community face its most pressing needs.

At the center of our work are the charitable individuals, families and businesses that are investing in causes they care about. We have the right tools and connections to amplify the impact of every gift our donors make. Our expert staff listen to your passions and beliefs so, together, we can develop a game plan for you to create lasting and meaningful results.

We have seen how the power of philanthropy transforms communities. We know it is a journey that transforms lives — those of our donors most of all.
Deepen your giving
If you know what you care about and what matters to you most, we are here to listen to your goals and dreams. Once we understand what you care about, we can connect you with resources to ensure that your giving purposefully aligns with outcomes that matter to you.

If you are at the beginning of your charitable giving journey, we can help. We provide opportunities to learn about community issues and introduce you to other engaged donors. Whether you are a seasoned philanthropist, or have just discovered the world of charitable giving, we are here to connect you with resources for impactful giving.

Focus on making a difference
When you work with GCF, we take on the administrative tasks and compliance requirements that come with charitable giving. You have 24-hour access to your fund. We take care of the “back office” work including:

• Simplifying your giving
• Providing regular account statements
• Writing and distributing grant checks
• Distributions of thank you letters
• Filing of tax and other IRS requirements as needed

Free of these administrative responsibilities, you are best able to focus on the joy that comes from the power of your philanthropy.

Along the way, you’ll enjoy support from a GCF philanthropic advisor, who will focus on understanding and managing the intricacies of your charitable giving. You’ll also be supported by our staff of community experts, grant managers, family philanthropy advisors — all focused on helping you achieve your charitable goals.

With GCF, you have all the knowledge, expertise and support you need to be a truly powerful — and empowered — philanthropist.
Five ways GCF can make you more effective

GCF provides unparalleled value to donors and to our region.
01
More than 50 years of amplifying charitable resources
Since our beginning in 1963, we’ve followed one of the guiding principles of the community foundation movement: to operate with flexibility so we connect the needs of the community over time. Since our founding, we’ve grown along with the Greater Cincinnati region, establishing funds such as the Northern Kentucky Fund, the Clermont County Fund and the Women’s Fund, which inclusively broaden our reach to extend our donors’ impact. With our donors, we’ve invested over $1 billion in grants.

02
Thoughtful philanthropic planning
We know an effective giving plan starts with deep conversations about the interests, influencers, motivations and aspirations of our donors. We will guide you through a process to clarify and define your philanthropic goals thoroughly informed by your deepest personal passions. Over time, we will help you analyze your charitable giving accomplishments and work with you to make any adjustments to your giving roadmap. We are here to provide tools to continually amplify your impact.

03
Deep community knowledge
We have unrivaled knowledge of the local nonprofits’ strengths and opportunities. We share this invaluable information with you, helping you make smart, involved decisions with your charitable dollars. We can provide grantmaking services, including identifying nonprofits and facilitating site visits with organizations you want to get to know better.

04
Family engagement
Passing on your charitable values to the next generation creates a bond between family members. With GCF-facilitated activities and conversations, you can uncover shared values among the generations of your family. By developing shared plans, you can create a comprehensive family legacy in the truest sense.

05
Tools to make it easy
In GCF, you’ll have a partner who can take care of all the administrative, compliance and legal aspects related to your charitable fund, allowing you the freedom to enjoy your philanthropic journey. You can be confident in the professional management, accounting, investment and report services we provide, which include:

• Online donor access portal to manage your fund
• Processing support (accounting, check-writing, financial reporting)
• Gift administration and tracking (managing contributions with reporting or other requirements)
• Recognition or anonymity (managing how you would like to be acknowledged for your giving)
• Governance structure (customizing and facilitating decision-making bodies and processes)
• Gift-planning advice

gcfdn.org
A fund for every type of donor
Choose a fund that matches your vision.

Personal Philanthropy

Donor Advised Fund
This flexible tool allows you to identify charities to distribute grants. It provides a tax deduction and simplifies the giving process.

Family Foundation
A family foundation offers families a tailored and engaged experience with their giving and provides you with more independence for achieving your charitable goals. With a family foundation, you can engage family members across generations. We can provide advisory board support and give you access to exclusive multi-gen resources.

Legacy Philanthropy

Estate Plan Gifts
A gift through your estate plan can include the transfer of various asset types, maximizing tax benefits while creating a lasting legacy. An estate gift can create or contribute to one of the following types of funds:

• Designated Fund
A designated fund provides support for a favorite organization that can grow and live on forever. This fund automates your support for an organization and ensures your intent is preserved even as times change.

• Field of Interest Fund
A field of interest fund offers a means to care for a beloved personal interest or cause. It enables you to learn more about nonprofits working in this space and allows for the greatest impact towards the cause over the long term.

• Community Fund
Using the expert team at GCF to assess community needs and ensure the judicious stewardship of assets, a community fund allows charitable investment broadly in the changing needs of Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky.

When you establish any type of fund with GCF, you have our full support behind you. Together we will develop a plan and a strategy that will serve your unique and personal philanthropic goals.
Corporate Philanthropy

Corporate Foundation
A corporate foundation offers a giving fund structured to create a more strategic and streamlined philanthropic program that aligns with your business goals. It establishes a more proactive and strategic approach to philanthropy, simplifying the administration of giving and engaging employees.

Special Services

Impact Investing
Impact investing uses charitable resources to loan to or invest in projects or funds that create both a social and financial return on your investment.

Scholarship Fund
A scholarship fund will benefit students in a way that aligns with your priorities and values. It can be tailored to a specific area of study, geographic area or academic or financial requirement.

Supporting Organization
A supporting organization means creating a 501(c)3 entity affiliated with the Greater Cincinnati Foundation with a separate governing board of directors. It enables the entity to operate programs and hire staff, and it offers streamlined giving options and a tailored and engaged giving experience.

A fund for every type of donor
Choose a fund that matches your vision.
Amplify the power of your giving

The Greater Cincinnati Foundation (GCF) believes the greatest change happens when people come together — in partnership, collaboration, and generosity. One of us alone can make a difference, but when we combine our efforts, the outcome is long-lasting impact.

We provide a deep level of charitable giving expertise. GCF was created by and for people in the Greater Cincinnati region and is the only community foundation serving all eight of the region’s counties: Butler, Clermont, Hamilton, and Warren in Ohio; Boone, Campbell, and Kenton in Kentucky; and Dearborn County in Indiana.

There is no better partner than GCF to empower you to be the change you want to see in the world, and there is no better time than now. Join us and see how much more meaningful your charitable giving can be.