



A supporting organization is a separate legal entity with its own board and bylaws but it employs the status of a public charity because it operates under the Community Foundation’s “umbrella” (similar to a subsidiary of a corporation). By setting up a supporting organization, donors receive the benefits and services of the Community Foundation thereby making the giving experience simple and enjoyable. A supporting organization maintains its own separate Board of Directors that manages its grantmaking, investments and other functions.

The Community Foundation is legally required to appoint a majority of the supporting organization’s Board of Directors in consultation with the donor. However, donors may appoint minority members to the Board of Directors and these members can include family members. Creating a supporting organization is an excellent alternative to a private foundation in that it costs less to administer because the Community Foundation handles all administrative oversight including the IRS-mandated tax returns and annual audits. Since supporting organizations are covered under the Community Foundation’s umbrella, your donations receive the maximum level of tax deductions.

Established by an individual, family or business with a gift of at least \$1 million, a supporting organization is a separate nonprofit corporation that qualifies as a public charity through its affiliation with the Community Foundation. A supporting organization is a great way to:

- Reduce administrative responsibilities
- Lower costs
- Operate semi-autonomously. Donor may select some board members, which may include family members
- Maintain personal involvement
- Retain your identity
- Support cherished causes
- Receive world class support from our skilled Finance & Investment Team or choose your own independent investment manager
- Utilize preferred investment strategies

Our expert staff is always available to help your supporting organization meet its grantmaking and philanthropic goals. We can help define strategy, engage extended family, and assess the effectiveness of grantees and more. Supporting organizations may make international grants and are allowed to continue for generations. Ask our Philanthropic Advisors how you can create an excellent alternative to a private foundation.