Planned giving through the Community Foundation is an excellent way to create lasting support for the causes that matter most to you, while helping you realize significant financial and tax benefits. Planned gifts can be used to establish a named fund within the Fund for Chattanooga, Community Foundation’s largest endowed fund; a Field of Interest Fund that supports an issue you care about; a Designated Fund that benefits specific nonprofit organizations or a Donor Advised Fund. The Community Foundation offers many ways for you to build a lasting philanthropic legacy for you and your family including:

**Bequest**
A bequest is a wonderful way to ensure that the charitable causes that matter to you and your family continue to be supported past your lifetime. You can name the Community Foundation of Greater Chattanooga as a charitable beneficiary in a new or existing will. This can be a stated dollar amount, a percentage of the estate, a specific property, or a portion of the entire residue. Contact us for how to structure and state the language for a bequest.

**Life Insurance**
Naming the Community Foundation as owner and beneficiary on a new or existing life insurance policy may provide valuable income and tax estate savings. There can also be immediate tax savings, when the Community Foundation is named owner and beneficiary of a non-term life policy.

**Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT)**
A trust may be established to benefit an existing or new fund at the Community Foundation. The donor retains a stream of income generated by the trust, for life. With a CRT, you may receive a current income tax deduction, eliminate capital gain taxes, reduce or eliminate gift or estate taxes, and improve cash flow for your lifetime.

**Charitable Lead Trust**
This planned giving vehicle enables you to provide a stream of charitable dollars for a specified number of years. The remainder is then returned to you or your named beneficiary; benefits maybe include the transfer of assets to others free of taxes (estate, gift, and income).

**Life Estate**
One way to contribute real estate is through a retained life estate agreement. This allows you to remain living in or using your home, vacation home, farm or other property while gifting that property to the Community Foundation. You receive an income tax deduction the same year that you make the gift, and the Community Foundation receives the property at the end of the retained life estate term (usually your lifetime).

**IRAs or Retirement Plan Assets**
Naming the Community Foundation as beneficiary of IRAs or Retirement Plans will enable you to avoid potential taxes on funds donated while supporting the causes you care about.