



Bequest Language

A bequest is simple and convenient. You can make a bequest for a specific dollar amount or for a percentage of your estate. You can designate your bequest for general use, or you can restrict its use. Many individuals use their will to establish endowments that honor the memory of a family member or another loved one. These endowments live forever because only the earnings distribution is used annually. Because a will is an important legal document, you should seek an attorney's help. To assist you with this important process, we offer some suggested bequest wording below.

Following are some examples of various types of bequests

Specific bequests are used to make a gift of a specific dollar amount or specific assets, such as securities, real estate, or personal property.

Residuary bequests are used to give all or a portion of the rest, residue, and remainder of your estate after payment of expenses and any specific amounts designated to other beneficiaries. If the gift is a residuary gift of less than the entire residue, the person drafting your will needs to specifically state whether the gift is before payment of death taxes or after. There are many instances in which there is no mention of how to calculate the percentage, and then court guidance becomes necessary.

Including ChristianaCare Health System in your will

ChristianaCare Health System is a not-for-profit organization, headquartered in Wilmington, DE. The following includes several examples of suggested bequest wording to benefit ChristianaCare Health System. Our Federal ID# is 52-1479538.

Each individual situation is unique, and therefore these examples include only some of the possible gift opportunities. We encourage you to share your final will provision with ChristianaCare to ensure your wishes will be properly followed and recognized.

Designating the purpose of a bequest

Unrestricted: The most useful type of bequest is unrestricted, allowing the funds to be allocated by the Board of Directors at ChristianaCare Health System wherever the need is greatest.

Restricted: You may designate your bequest to support a special service line or purpose that reflects your personal interest (for example: Cancer, Heart & Vascular, Women's and Children's, Swank Memory Care Center, First State School, Trauma, Visiting Nurse Association, etc.).

If the bequest is restricted to a specific purpose, it is important the following wording be added at the end of the provision. This will ensure that, in the remote possibility a service area or specified purpose may cease to need funds in the future, an alternate use for the bequest may be determined.

“... for so long as the Board of Directors at ChristianaCare Health System determines that the need exists. Should the need no longer exist, said Board of Directors may, in its sole discretion, direct the use of my bequest for a purpose related as closely as possible to that stated above.”

Sample language for specific amount for unrestricted purposes

"I give, devise, and bequeath to ChristianaCare Health System the sum of \$_____ in cash or in-kind (or _____ shares of _____ stock or other security) to be used at the discretion of the Board of Directors for the general purposes of ChristianaCare Health System."

Sample language for percentage of estate for unrestricted purposes

"I give, devise, and bequeath to ChristianaCare Health System _____ percent (%) of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate as an unrestricted gift to be used at the discretion of the Board of Directors for the general purposes of ChristianaCare Health System."

Sample language for specific amount for specific purpose

To assist you with your plans, Amy Bielicki, Director of Development, at 302-327-3337 or Amy.Bielicki@ChristianaCare.org, can provide sample language for the program or area you wish to support. This is available to you without obligation.

"I give, devise, and bequeath to ChristianaCare Health System the sum of \$_____ in cash or in-kind (or _____ shares of _____ stock) to be used for _____ at ChristianaCare Health System.

If changed circumstances should at some future time make it impractical to continue using the income from the Fund for the purpose designated, then the ChristianaCare Health System Board of Directors may redesignate the purpose to adhere as closely as possible to my original intent."

Sample language for percentage of estate for specific purpose

"I give, devise, and bequeath to ChristianaCare Health System _____ percent (%) of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate to be used for _____ at ChristianaCare Health System.

If changed circumstances should at some future time make it impractical to continue using the income from the Fund for the purpose designated, then the ChristianaCare Health System Board of Directors may redesignate the purpose to adhere as closely as possible to my original intent."

Creating an endowed fund through your will

Please contact Amy Bielicki, Director of Development, at 302-327-3337 or e-mail Amy.Bielicki@ChristianaCare.org for information on establishing endowed funds, as specific guidelines and minimums apply.

Sample language for percentage of estate for specific purposes with an endowment provision

"I give, devise, and bequeath to ChristianaCare Health System _____ percent (%) of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate to establish the _____ ENDOWED FUND. The principal of this Fund shall be invested as part of ChristianaCare's permanent endowment and in accordance with its policies. The income therefrom is to be used by ChristianaCare Health System for _____. Contributions may be added to the Fund at any time.

If changed circumstances should at some future time make it impractical to continue using the income from the Fund for the purpose designated, then the ChristianaCare Health System Board of Directors may redesignate the purpose for which the Fund's income may be distributed, provided that the Fund shall continue to bear the name _____ ENDOWED FUND, and that the amended terms shall adhere as closely as possible to my original intent."