



Charitable Giving and Community Foundations

What is a community foundation?

A community is a gathering of people connected to one another. A foundation is a platform for growth. A community foundation is a platform for building community.

The first community foundation was established in 1914 by Cleveland banker Frederick Goff in an effort to protect charitable trusts in banks. He proposed an organization, governed by civic leaders, that would manage endowed funds for charitably-minded citizens and distribute grants to local causes in their names.

Such a community foundation would enjoy economies of scale, offering the affluent and modest donor alike the professional administration of a major institution, without depleting charitable capital that had been donated for the public good. Financial experts would continue to manage the investments, and civic leaders would ensure that every donor's charitable wishes were carried out.

What is the Nevada Community Foundation?

The Nevada Community Foundation was established as a nonprofit corporation in 1988 by a group of prominent, local citizens who wanted to ensure a permanent source of funds for local charitable organizations. We serve as a vehicle for local philanthropy by connecting our donors' philanthropic interests with community needs.

From a tax and legal perspective, the Foundation is a simpler, cheaper and more tax-efficient alternative to creating a private foundation. From a programmatic viewpoint, we do even more. The Nevada Community Foundation serves as philanthropic advisors to generous families who are trying to use their charitable dollars more wisely by engaging us as their personal foundation staff. We connect generous donors to charitable activities and programs that meet their interests. We encourage collaboration among nonprofits to avoid duplication and fill gaps in services. In addition, your philanthropic dollars are leveraged to support important community initiatives, all for the betterment of Southern Nevada.

Fundamentally, we exist to build and strengthen our community in all of its wonderful diversity – from arts and culture to children's issues, from social service concerns to environmental activities.

There is so much more we'd like you to know.
Please call us at (702) 892-2326 for more information.
www.nevadacf.org

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