

# **Effective Gift Planning Strategies in Turbulent Times**



Date: June 25, 2020

Time: 1:00 - 2:30 Eastern

Presenter: Jeff Lydenberg

Vice President



### **Agenda**

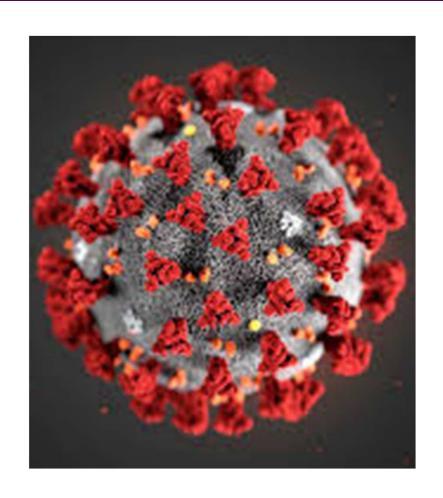
- The American economy in June 2020 and legislative charitable incentives
- Planned gift solutions in hard times
  - ✓ Bequests/beneficiary designations
  - ✓ Gift annuities
  - Deferred gift annuities
  - ✓ Charitable remainder trusts
  - ✓ Virtual endowments
  - ✓ Blended pledges/planned gifts
  - ✓ Creative naming gift solutions

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### **Agenda**

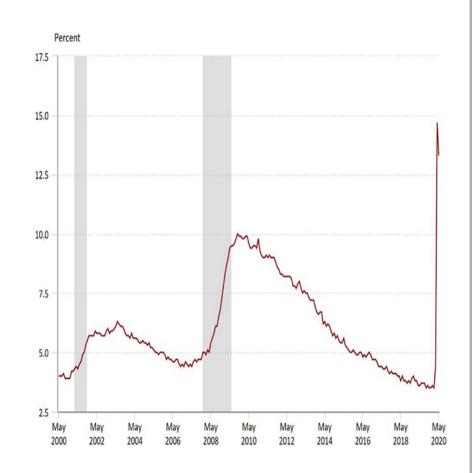
- Covid-19 pandemic first hit U.S. in January 2020
- First state shut down March 21, 2020
- All 50 states soon followed suit
- Crowd generating businesses forced to close
- Economic impact has been staggering
- State restrictions being relaxed as of June 2020





### **The American Economy-June 2020**

- Record-setting unemployment compensation claims
- Sharp declines in retail sales
- Falling freight shipments
- Plummeting industrial production
- Unimaginable lows in price for crude oil
- U.S. officially in a recession





## The American Economy-June 2020

- The High Net-worth Donor
  - Experiencing asset loss and volatility
  - ✓ Expecting deep negative short-term growth in 2020
  - ✓ Latter 2020 optimism for significant growth
  - ✓ Not all donors affected equally
  - ✓ Some stimulus provisions yield lucrative tax benefits



## **Approaching Loyal and HNW donors**

- Acknowledge the impact of virus on society and the economy
- How is your charity involved in Covid-19 relief?
- First contacts focus on stewardship
  - ✓ Are you and your family ok?
  - ✓ How have you been affected by the pandemic?
  - ✓ Follow the donor's lead



### **Loyal and HNW donors**

- Uncertainty
  - ✓ The 2020 watch word
  - ✓ Economic
  - ✓ Health
  - ✓ Lifestyle
- Major life changes
  - ✓ Motivated to get affairs in order
  - ✓ Anecdotally estate and wealth planners very busy

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- Donors are planning now
- Donors are contemplating their legacy
- Donors want to help
- The needs continue





- The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, or CARES Act signed into law on March 27<sup>th</sup>
- 100% of AGI limit available in 2020 for cash gifts
  - ✓ In 2020 only, may deduct up to 100% of income
  - ✓ Normally may not deduct all that you earn to zero out tax
  - ✓ Under prior law, could not deduct more than 60% of earned income



- For 2020 only, non-itemizers may reduce their reportable income by \$300.
- Limited to \$300 per tax return
- May not make gifts to donor advised funds or supporting organizations
- Encourages the 90% of non-itemizing taxpayers to make more cash gifts in 2020
- Donors who itemize still take charitable deduction



- Required minimum distributions waived in 2020
  - ✓ Minimum distributions not required from IRAs, 401(k)s, 403(b)s
  - ✓ Required minimum distributions that would have had to start in 2020 don't have to start until 2021
  - ✓ Could dampen interest in making qualified charitable distribution (QCD)
  - ✓ Nonetheless, a QCD in 2020 allows non-itemizers to make gifts to charity with the same benefits of a fully deductible gift





### **Proposed Legislation**

- Senate considering plan to increase the \$300 adjustment to income for non-itemizers
- Initial amount would be one-third of the standard deduction
- In 2020, that is \$4,133 for individuals and \$8,267 for married couples
- Economic models suggest provision would reduce federal tax revenue more than it increases charitable gifts



### **Planned Gifts for Hard Times**

- Planned gifts acknowledge uncertainty considering economics and pandemic
- Testamentary (effective at death) gifts offer greatest flexibility
- Revocable gifts responsive to changing conditions
- Life income gifts benefit donor and charity





## **Bequests and Beneficiary Designations**

- Why donors love these gifts
  - ✓ Flexible
  - ✓ Revocable
  - ✓ Donor maintains control



- Why charity should love these gifts
  - ✓ Largest gift these donors will ever make
  - ✓ Many multiples greater than life-time giving
  - ✓ Require fewest charity resources of all planned gifts



## **Bequests and Beneficiary Designations**

- Majority of planned gifts made this way
- Largest source of planned gift dollars
- Generally revocable and can be contingent
- Legacy Society cornerstone of estate giving program



### **Life Income Gifts to Calm Troubled Waters**

#### Gift Annuities

✓ Best gift for donors seeking fixed, guaranteed payments

### Pooled Income Fund

✓ Accommodates smaller gifts from donors seeking income growth

#### Charitable Remainder Trusts

- ✓ Best suited for six figure plus gifts
- ✓ Unitrust most popular because it offers inflation protection
- ✓ Best option when funding with real estate/illiquid assets



## **The Gift Annuity**

- Rates based on annuitants age using ACGA rates
  - ✓ Uniform rates discourage charity shopping
  - ✓ Updated rates effective July 1, 2020
- Older annuitant, higher the payment
- Payments are fixed and guaranteed by charity
- No inflation protection, but safe



## The Gift Annuity

- George and Rita, 76 and 75
- **\$25,000** gift for a CGA
- Pays annuitants \$1,175 (4.7% of 25,000) annually for life
- \$9,018 income tax deduction (0.8% discount rate)
- 85% of each payment **tax-free** for first 16 years
- Payments to George and Mary as long as they live!



### **The Deferred Gift Annuity**

- Matt and Jenna, 68 and 65
  - ✓ Immediate annuity rate 3.9%
  - ✓ Defer payments until Matt 73 and Jenna 70, 4.9% rate
- \$25,000 deferred annuity
  - ✓ Income tax deduction \$6,864 (0.8% discount rate)
  - ✓ Compounded annuity payment of \$1,225
  - √ 77% of each annuity payment tax-free for first 19 years.



### **Charitable Remainder Unitrust**

- <u>Unitrust</u> pays fixed percentage of trust value as revalued annually
- Year one: 5% payout, trust value \$1,250,000; Unitrust payment **\$62,500**
- Year two: 5% payout, trust value \$1,450,000; Unitrust payment \$72,500
- Year three: 5% payout, trust value \$1,100,000; Unitrust payment \$55,000



### **Charitable Remainder Unitrust**

- Trip and Bunny, 60 and 58
- Commercial office building valued at \$2.5M
- Building sale generates significant capital gain
- Trip and Bunny still want the cash flow
- How can they save taxes, generate income, and benefit charity?





### **Charitable Remainder Unitrust**

- Building donated to a charitable remainder trust with a flip provision
- Prior to sale, trust pays its net income (current rents) to Trip and Bunny
- Year after sale, trust will pay a regular unitrust amount
- Income from trust investments for life



### **Blended Gift Solutions**

#### The Virtual Endowment

- ✓ Solicitation for \$3M endowment fund
- ✓ Donors balk
- The annual spend rate on a \$3M endowment is 5% or \$150,000 per year
- Donors pledge to make annual gifts of \$150,000 per year for life
- Additionally agree to fully fund endowment at death
- Consider a portion up front, balance at death



### Endowment Backed by Estate Gift

- √ \$5M solicitation
- ✓ To be paid in 5-year pledge
- Donors concerned about market conditions
- Pledge for \$2.5M payable in 5 to 7 years
- Balance payable from estate
- Gift agreement contemplates variance of recognition



- Creative Capital Naming Opportunities
  - ✓ Solicit \$10M naming opportunity
  - Revocable planned gifts not eligible for naming spaces





- Creative Capital Naming Opportunities
- Combination of outright gift and irrevocable planned gift
  - ✓ 75% outright portion shall be payable in a 5 to 7-year pledge
  - ✓ If the planned gift is an irrevocable bequest:
    - ✓ Donor must be 75 years or older
    - ✓ Require documentation of donor's estate plan
- Naming/recognition may be modified commensurate with gift actually received



#### SECURE Act eliminated the stretch IRA

- ✓ Under prior law, parents could spread out payments to heirs from IRAs over life expectancy of heirs (the "stretch IRA")
- ✓ Inherited IRA must be distributed within 10 years of plan owner's death
- ✓ Accelerates taxes due and eliminates tax-free growth

### Life income gifts for heirs

- ✓ Make CRT the beneficiary of the IRA
- ✓ IRA money has never been taxed, taxable as paid to heirs
- ✓ CRT delays heir's liability for taxes, reducing net cost

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# **Questions?**



33

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## Still Have a Question?

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