

Community Connection Dec. 2017

Dear Friends of the Community Foundation,

As we close out 2017 with the season of giving, here are a few practical ways to maximize your year end contributions:

1. Create Your Legacy

Begin your personal path to philanthropy by establishing a charitable fund at the Community Foundation of Central Illinois. While you'll receive a tax break immediately, you will have time to research the charities you want to support and the flexibility to give when the time is right for you.

2. Add to Your Fund

If you already hold a fund with us, you may make additional gifts at any time. Contact us as soon as possible to learn how you can gift cash, publicly-traded securities, mutual funds, or IRA assets prior to year-end.

3. Remember a Loved One

Consider memorializing a friend or family member by supporting a cause that they held close to their heart. A donation to CFCI's Operating Fund, or any of our other 300+ funds, is a wonderful way to honor their memory.

4. Consider Making a Gift from Your IRA

The IRA Charitable Rollover is now permanent tax law. If you are 70 ½ or older, you can transfer up to \$100,000 (\$200,000 for couples) annually from your IRA to a public charity such as the Community Foundation of Central Illinois. Your gift won't count as income and it will be free from federal tax. While this tax-saving opportunity doesn't qualify for donor advised funds, this may be an opportune time to support your favorite charities or areas of interest with a rollover to one of CFCI's other types of funds.

For more information please contact me at 309-674-8730 or by email at

mark@communityfoundationci.org.

We wish you and your family a wonderful holiday season and a prosperous new year.

Sincerely,

Mark Roberts, CEO
Community Foundation of Central Illinois



Mark Your Calendar for These 2018 CFCI Grants

As you prepare for the coming year, please be sure to place these competitive grant opportunities on your calendar. Applications are accessible through our website and typically open two months prior to the deadline. The following are grant opportunities that will be offered through CFCI in 2018:

- **Community Arts Grants** - deadline March 1st
- **The Arts Mean Business Fund Grants** - deadline March 1st
- **Jean M. Ligon Animal Welfare Grants** - deadline March 1st
- **Emerging Philanthropists Fund Grant** - deadline June 13th
- **Community Needs Grants** - deadline September 5th
- **The Women's Fund Success Grants** - deadline September 5th
- **The Local Jobs Fund Grant** - deadline September 5th

For more information on grant opportunities available through the Community Foundation, please visit communityfoundationci.org or call (309) 674-8730.



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