



# Welcome Packet and Guide

## Our Commitment and Your Role



Our mission:

*We connect people who care  
with causes that matter.*

# **The Community Foundation provides a way for an individual or family to give to specific charities, communities, or causes.**



## **How the fund process works:**

Your fund is a vehicle established to accomplish your philanthropic goals. You contribute as frequently as you like, and disbursements are made to your favorite causes.



## **In an effort to strengthen community capacity, we pledge to:**

- Provide clear and accurate information about your fund
- Respond to your inquiries promptly
- Understand the emerging needs of the Starved Rock community
- Offer you opportunities to partner with other donors and organizations with similar interests
- Recognize the generous spirit of Starved Rock Country
- Engage new philanthropists
- Invest your funds prudently
- Maintain an ongoing partnership with you to help you fulfill your philanthropic goals

## **Your role as a fund advisor**

As a partner in the work of SRCCF, you play a role in enriching others' lives through philanthropy. An effective giving plan is the result of donors embracing the following:

- Evaluating your own philanthropic goals regularly
- Educating yourself on unmet needs in the community. We can help with this!
- Seeking out the best organizations to accomplish your goals. We can help with this, too!
- Talking with SRCCF staff about changes in your interests
- Carefully reviewing your fund statements
- Participating in opportunities provided through SRCCF

# What we offer

- **Grantmaking expertise:** We can share information about local nonprofit organizations and community needs to help you be strategic in your grantmaking. Whether you want to learn about a specific agency or find organizations that are working in a particular area of interest, we can help.
- **Record keeping:** We handle all administrative duties associated with your fund, including processing and confirming grant requests, acknowledging gifts, and issuing financial statements.
- **Stewardship and transparency:** Assets are pooled with SRCCF's other assets, providing investment diversification benefits and lower costs associated with participation in an extremely large portfolio. SRCCF is independently audited annually with the results available by request.
- **Gift planning expertise:** Our Directors are available to help you explore a variety of gift vehicles, such as charitable bequests. Gifts can be added to your existing fund, or you can create a new fund while addressing other estate planning considerations. Our team can work directly with your personal financial and tax advisors to develop the most advantageous strategy to accomplish your financial and philanthropic goals.
- **Recognition:** Unless you have indicated a wish to remain anonymous, we are happy to feature you in our publications. You will also be invited to community forums and educational and social events.
- **Communications:** We will keep you informed about SRCCF activities and opportunities through social media, our website, newsletters, and invitations to special events.
- **Making a gift through your will:** Making a gift through your will is a simple and popular way to support your community and the causes you care about most, and it can offer significant tax advantages. It can also leave a lasting legacy for you and your family. When including SRCCF in your will, you may designate your gift toward:
  - Your current fund or a new fund in your name
  - A general area of interest
  - A specific cause
  - An unrestricted gift for the area of greatest need



# Process Recap

1. You've made an irrevocable gift of personal assets
2. You've immediately received a tax deduction
3. The terms of your fund have been set and agreed on by you and the Starved Rock Country Community Foundation: the name, the philanthropic objectives, the fund advisors and any successor advisors
4. Your gift has been deposited into your fund account at SRCCF where it will be invested and grow
5. Grants are made from your account depending on the type of fund:
  - a. For **donor-advised funds**, you will be able to recommend grants from your fund to qualified nonprofit organizations
  - b. For **field of interest funds**, you will be able to recommend grants from your fund to qualified nonprofit organizations consistent with the purpose (area of need) you have specified (e.g. animal welfare, the environment, etc.)
  - c. For **designated funds**, you will be able to recommend grants from your fund on an established schedule to the organization(s) you have designated as beneficiaries of your grants
  - d. For **scholarship funds**, you determine the amount of the scholarship award to be made each spring after committee review



## Next steps

- **How to support your causes (for donor-advised funds):** The advisors listed in the fund agreement may recommend grants to qualified nonprofits, schools, libraries, museums, and some government programs. If you need to change your advisors, please contact us.
- Once grant recommendations are received, we verify each organization's status as a qualified nonprofit, either domestic or international. **We will advise you if the organization is not qualified.**
- Recommendations are reviewed as they come in and are subject to review and approval by the SRCCF Board of Directors. We will send grants from your fund directly to the organization(s), acknowledging your fund as the source (unless you have chosen to remain anonymous). We can also send the grant check directly to you to deliver personally.
- Keep in mind:
  - You need to keep at least \$1,000 in your fund at all times, although minimums may vary depending on the type of fund
  - Your **tax deductions** are linked to the time of your donation(s) going into the fund, not the time of your grant(s) coming out of the fund
- Grantmaking restrictions: There are very few restrictions on your donor advised fund. According to IRS regulations, you may **not**, among other things, recommend grants:
  - To individuals, including grants made directly to an organization for the benefit of a specific individual
  - To donors, advisors, or related parties of your fund
  - For a non-charitable purpose
  - In fulfillment of pledge payments
  - To fund any activity for which you receive a private benefit such as dues, membership fees, event tickets, the non-charitable portion of fundraising dinners, or goods or services bought at auctions
- For **field of interest** and **donor designated funds**, grants may be awarded consistent with the purpose (area of need) or organization specified in your fund agreement

# How to increase your philanthropic impact

- Partnering with SRCCF: The SRCCF has been fostering philanthropy in LaSalle, Bureau, and Putnam Counties (and sometimes beyond), and acting as a connector around people, place, and purpose since 2015. Our mission is to ignite the power of philanthropy--by connecting people, ideas, and resources--to support and engage our community.
- Adding to your fund: By establishing a fund at SRCCF, you have created a lasting resource to meet your philanthropic goals. Adding to your fund increases the impact it will have over time.
- You or anyone else may make subsequent contributions to the fund at any time using a variety of assets, including cash, securities, restricted stock, partnership interests, and real estate.
- Many donors have an annual tradition of donating to their fund or requesting “contributions in lieu of gifts” to celebrate important occasions or milestones. Facebook and other social media can be very effective ways of sharing the news about your new fund or encouraging contributions.
- Checks should be made out to the Starved Rock Country Community Foundation with your fund listed on the memo line of the check.



# How to increase your philanthropic impact



- Donating assets\*: Almost any kind of asset can be donated, including:
  - Cash
  - Appreciated stock
  - Retirement
  - Life insurance
  - Estate
  - Tangible personal property

\*The above is not intended to be an all-inclusive list of acceptable assets. Gift acceptance is dependent upon asset review and approval.

- To make a gift of stock: A gift of stock to Starved Rock Country Community Foundation requires a stock transfer from your current brokerage account to SRCCF's brokerage account, which is in custody at Hometown National Bank and Trust in LaSalle, IL. The value of a gift of readily marketable stock is the mean between the high and the low share price on the day that the transfer becomes irrevocable (the date of settlement for a transfer of stock to SRCCF's account). Please call the SRCCF office at (815) 252-2906 prior to transfer to tell us what stocks are being transferred, how many shares, and the name of the fund to which you want them credited. There may be further instructions depending on the type of asset you are transferring. Here are the steps to follow:
  - Contact us at (815) 252-2906 to notify us of a stock gift or transfer and provide the name, company, and phone number of the broker who will be handling the transaction.
  - Contact your broker and give him/her the instructions we will provide to you for transferring shares of stock to SRCCF.
  - Advise your broker to call our office so that we can smoothly handle the transaction details. We will need the stock transfer date. SRCCF will confirm the SRCCF account information for the incoming transfer.
  - SRCCF will confirm receipt of the stock gift with the donor and the broker. A tax receipt letter with key information will be sent shortly after the transfer, including the name of the stock, total number of shares gifted, share price (high/low), and the date of the gift. Donors should consult their tax advisors regarding the deductible value of a gift.
- Continuing your legacy: Starved Rock Country Community Foundation is here for the long term and relies on donors who share our dream for a better future for Starved Rock Country. Fortunately, there are almost as many ways to give as there are needs to be met--now and in the future. With a little planning, you can benefit your community at the same time you provide for your own future and that of your children.

# Interested in a fund for your organization ?

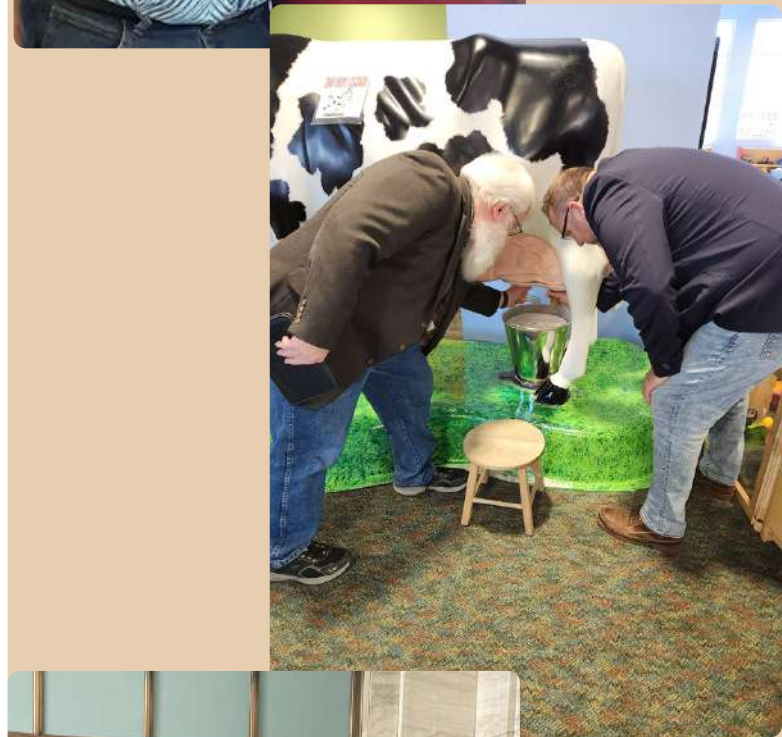
## **Fiscal sponsorship**

A fiscal sponsorship is an opportunity for non-profit groups who want to create a new organization or initiative in the community. At its core, a fiscal sponsorship is a relationship with Starved Rock County Community Foundation that enables individuals, collectives, and other groups to enjoy some of the benefits of our non-profit tax status.

## **Agency fund**

An agency fund is a fund established by nonprofits who want to build an endowment to provide an annual income stream and long-term financial stability for an organization.

For more information about SRCCF funds for your organization or just your great idea, give us a call.



# Learn more about our resources at [srccf.org](http://srccf.org)

Or call (815) 252-2906 to arrange a private meeting with your financial advisor and you to explore a variety of options.



## SRCCF Leadership



Pamela Beckett, founder  
Senior Director of Philanthropy  
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Janice Corrigan  
Director of Operations and  
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Tonya Willey  
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Meridith Donahue  
Director of Marketing,  
Communications, and  
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### SRCCF Contact information

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Starved Rock Country Community Foundation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization as designated by the IRS and the State of Illinois. Financial contributions are tax-deductible in accordance with IRS guidelines.