

Frequently Asked Questions...

faq: What can the community foundation help me do?

Build the community's charitable trust fund. The Community Foundation was established to increase the permanent funds available to support local nonprofits.

faq: Why go through a community foundation?

In Decatur these things are unique to The Community Foundation:

- (1) Donor Advised Funds
- (2) Designated Funds
- (3) General community trust fund

faq: Why would I start a Donor Advised Fund?

Like a private foundation, a donor advised fund offers favorable current tax benefits and provides for future giving. A donor simply fills out a two-page agreement form and names the fund, makes a charitable donation with a current tax deduction, and recommends grants to charities this year or in the future.

faq: This is getting complicated. What is a Designated Fund?

Created to benefit specific organizations or purposes, Designated Funds are created by one or many donors. Examples:

- Cancer Care Specialists of Central Illinois Charitable Fund
- Fund for Decatur Schools

- Planned Parenthood of Decatur Endowment Fund
- Rotary 180 Endowment Fund
- St. Patrick Catholic School Sister Lucy Educational Fund
- United Way of Decatur/Macon County Endowment Fund
- WSOY Merrill and Sis Lindsay Broadcast Scholarship Fund
- YMCA Soccer Scholarship Fund

faq: How does it help an organization if I contribute to their designated fund?

Your donation is invested, and the earnings are paid out to the organization each year as an annual gift.

faq: What happens to my money if The Community Foundation goes out of business?

The money donated to The Community Foundation is restricted to the purposes for which it was given. If The Community Foundation ends its operations, the donated funds held in trust by a local legal or financial organization, and used in perpetuity for the designated, restricted purposes.

faq: Okay, how can I find out more?

Please contact The Community Foundation at 125 N. Water, Suite 200, Decatur, IL 62523, (217) 429-3000. Website: www.endowdecatur.org.