

Designated endowments: Securing the future for Michigan's children

To truly improve the lives of children in Michigan — both today and for generations to come — we must invest in the future of the organizations that support them.

At the Children's Foundation, we believe that one of the keys to this lasting impact lies in endowments. These are more than financial tools — they're lifelines offering a dependable and flexible source of income that empowers organizations to thrive independently. This stability means that, year after year, they can continue to provide vital services to children and communities who rely on their care and guidance.

Endowments have traditionally been reserved for large institutions like universities and hospitals, but we believe that every organization, no matter its size, deserves the opportunity to build this kind of enduring strength. Through endowment, we can give these organizations the stability they need, ensuring Michigan's children can always count on the programs and resources that make a meaningful difference in their lives —now and far into the future.

Depending on circumstances, you may be looking to establish a Nonprofit Agency Endowment, a Donor Designated Endowment - or both.

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Nonprofit Agency Endowments

This type of fund is for an organization that has resources they want to commit to their own future sustainability

As the leader of your youth-serving nonprofit, your mission is to serve children. At the Children's Foundation, we envision a Michigan where all children have equitable opportunities to lead healthy lives - and we manage philanthropic resources to help achieve this vision.

Together, we can work to ensure the future of Michigan's children is bright, secure and full of possibility. An endowment fund for your nonprofit organization can help make that a reality.

We understand your organization may be new to endowment, and that thoughtful partnership will be the key to your success. Establishing a Nonprofit Agency Endowment with the Children's Foundation means we will support your organization with coaching and consultation – not only through comprehensive stewardship and administrative expertise, but with a deep understanding of the challenges facing your organization and the children it serves.

What our partnership allows

- Reduced overhead and administrative costs: Our team handles all gift processing, record keeping, tax reporting, administrative services, and audits.
- Professional investment management and consultation: Your endowment is managed by financial experts from the Foundation's Investment Committee and investment advisors.
- Acceptance of various gift types: The Foundation can accept gifts of cash, marketable securities, and other assets, ensuring your donors leave a legacy of support they so desire.
- Technical assistance: The Foundation works with you and your donors to help realize philanthropic goals.
- Thoughtful partnership: Our team is available, if desired, to help you to think comprehensively about how to use your earnings that would be the most meaningful for your organization and the kids you serve.
- Flexibility: For resources your organization would transfer into your own endowment we offer the flexibility to request those resources back in the future if an emergency situation arises

Donor Designated Endowments

This type of fund is intended for donors who want to support a mission they feel passionate about, for the long term

As an individual or family who cares deeply about helping Michigan's children thrive, there is a philanthropic role for you in ensuring the youth-serving nonprofits in our community are able to succeed in their missions.

What our partnership provides:

- Professional investment management and consultation: Your endowment is managed by financial experts from the Foundation's Investment Committee and investment advisors.
- Allows a nonprofit to focus on meeting their mission, while we support them by using our expertise in philanthropic resource investment and management"
- Acceptance of various gift types: the Foundation can accept gifts of cash, marketable assets, and other complex gift assets and estate gifts, ensuring you can leave a legacy of support for the organizations you love most.
- Your resources will support the mission you care about forever, even if something were to happen to the organization serving that mission right now.
- Technical assistance: the Foundation works with you to help you realize your philanthropic goals"
- Thoughtful partnership: Our team's deep understanding of the needs of young people will help you to think comprehensively about how earnings from this new endowment would be most meaningful for the organization and kids you are trying to support.