



First State Fund: Touching So Many Lives

Tom Sager, former DCF board chairman, established the First State Fund to reflect his professional and personal commitment to diversity.

Through the donor advised fund, Sager promotes the health of women and African Americans by supporting organizations including the American Heart Association and Christiana Care Health System.

Grants from the fund also create opportunities for children in Wilmington. A \$10,000 grant funded a new playground at the Community Education Building.

Sager said the DCF is helping him and others maximize the impact of charitable resources by taking a data-driven, integrated approach to identifying “where the biggest bang for our buck is.”

“The DCF is touching so many lives in countless ways, from grants to scholarships,” said Sager, former general counsel at the DuPont Company.

At the end of his lifetime, Sager’s sons will take over directing the fund. Ultimately, it will become part of the Delaware Forever Fund, empowering the DCF to direct the funds where they are needed most.

“I’ve lived and worked in Wilmington all but five years of my 40-year career, and I want to contribute to making Wilmington a better place to live,” Sager said. “The folks at the DCF know Delaware, so they’re able to help me make the impact I want to have.”

What is a Donor Advised Fund?

A donor advised fund is a charitable tool for the sole purpose of supporting charities you care about. Contributions to these funds are typically tax deductible.

A donor advised fund at the Delaware Community Foundation (DCF) goes a step further. In addition to managing your fund, our team can help you make your grants as powerful as possible by leveraging our knowledge of Delaware and opportunities to effectively address its most critical challenges.

The DCF is a permanent source of charitable funds for our community. You can be confident that the DCF will be here to honor and protect your charitable wishes in perpetuity.

HOW A DONOR ADVISED FUND WORKS

- **OPEN THE FUND** with an initial gift of \$15,000 or more in cash or other assets, such as appreciated stock, mutual funds or real estate. Most gifts are tax deductible.
- **NAME THE FUND** for yourself, your family, or your business, or create a name that provides anonymity. The DCF can ensure your grants are made anonymously if you wish.
- **DESIGNATE ADVISORS** to the fund, such as yourself, your spouse or your children. Name additional advisors, such as family members, to be able to make grant recommendations.
- **PLAN FOR THE FUTURE** by working with the DCF to design a succession plan for your fund, defining how it is to be used after you are gone.
- **CHOOSE AN INVESTMENT STRATEGY** from the DCF's investment pools, or ask about ways to keep your personal financial advisor involved.
- **RECOMMEND GRANTS TO NONPROFITS** Each year, you may consult with the DCF to decide which charities will receive grants from your fund. Grants can be made to any public charity in the U.S., but support of local organizations is encouraged.
- **ADD TO YOUR FUND AT ANY TIME** to take advantage of additional tax benefits while increasing the amount available for grants.
- **REVIEW YOUR FUND ACTIVITY ONLINE.**

The DCF handles all of the administrative requirements of the fund, from investments to paperwork.

A donor advised fund at the DCF is a powerful giving tool that will have a lasting impact on the community you care about. To begin the process of establishing your new charitable fund, please contact us at info@delcf.org or 302.571.8004.