

start-up costs, excise taxes or annual tax-reporting obligations. And annual expenses, which are often substantial with a private foundation, typically range from 1.3% to 3% with a donor-advised fund.

Once an account is funded, any potential asset growth in the account is tax-free, enabling the donor to make potentially larger future charitable gifts. Donors can make charitable gifts from the account anonymously, if they wish, and can name successors and counselors to the account who would be able to make grants from the account after the original donor(s) death.

Choosing a Donor-Advised Fund

Because they require donors to make an irrevocable gift, donor-advised funds typically request that a donor has the demonstrated means to fund an account, with common initial funding requirements set at \$10,000 or more. However, that amount is typically far less than the assets required to start a private foundation.

Investment options. Are there multiple investment options and do they seem compatible with your goals for asset growth? Are you able to recommend how your account assets are invested?

Expenses. Do annual administrative expenses and fees seem reasonable?

Reporting process. What type of records will you receive and how often?

Donation process. How simple is it to recommend a charitable donation from your account? Who can assist you?

Funding a Donor-Advised Fund

Donor-advised funds can be ideal for individuals who have recently received a large amount of cash, such as through an inheritance or the sale of a business, or for those with substantial appreciated securities.

Individuals who don't have sufficient assets to start a donor-advised fund, but who want to establish a charitable legacy, may wish to pool their funds with family members or friends to create a sufficiently large account.

Even with the recent fluctuations in the stock market, millions of Americans hold appreciated securities, making them potential candidates for opening a donor-advised fund. And philanthropy continues to grow. According to *Giving USA*, a leading source on national charitable giving, individual Americans gave 5% more to charity in 2000 than they did in 1999: an astonishing \$152.07 billion.

To learn more about the tax advantages of donor-advised funds, check with your tax advisor. If you'd like to determine if a donor-advised fund is potentially appropriate to your charitable and financial goals, work with a knowledgeable financial advisor.



Care & Share

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YOUR OWN CHARITY IN GOD'S OWN COUNTRY

Holiday Edition Newsletter on Kerala charities

Care and Share is an international charitable organization with projects in the United States and India. Over the past twelve years, we have set the standard in philanthropy and volunteerism. Administrative cost is kept at a bare minimum as 95% of the proceeds go to the charities designated. We are truly the kinder, gentler and Kerala-focused charity.

We are grateful to our dedicated board members and our kind, caring and loyal friends who have supported us over the years. We salute the selflessness, enthusiasm and dedication of our Kerala chapter. The leaders of the Kerala chapter of Care and Share are E. R. Menon and Dr. Sachidanand Kamat.

CARE AND SHARE, KERALA CHAPTER

Volunteer doctors include internists (Doctors Ninan and Rasheed), Pediatrician (Dr. Kamath), Ophthalmologist (Dr. Roshan George), Urologists (Doctors Abraham, Sanal Vargheese, and Tampan), Surgeon (Dr. Jos Tharayil) and Radiologist/Ultrasonologist (Dr. Ramesh Shenoy). Hats off also to the other hundreds of our volunteers. At the **eleven** eye camps conducted in the Cochin suburbs in this year, Care and Share screened 2,973 patients, distributed 1,389 free eye glasses and performed 82 state-of-the-art Phacoemulsification cataract surgeries. Other free services provided in Kerala by Care and Share included free diabetes, blood pressure, renal disease and prostate cancer screenings. EKG, x-rays, bone densitometry tests, and ultrasonograms were done free of charge. In our camps, prevention of heart disease, diabetes and cancers were considered top priority. The prevention of Leptospirosis or rat fever, a disease that leads to liver and kidney failure, resulting in high morbidity and mortality, was also a top priority. It is estimated that as of October 2002, the Care and Share camps in Kerala provided services that cost in excess of Rs. 12,49,875.00.

RAKSHA, COCHIN

For the past seventeen years, Manjoo and Ragini Menon have run Raksha, a day care facility for the rehabilitation and training of physically and

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enough to Share
Care & Share?

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