



Photo by: Scott Cutler



Photo by: Richard Love

ESTATE PLANNING PROGRAM CREATE A LASTING LEGACY



Photo by: Richard Love



Photo by: Miguel Fraga

Welcome to The Frontera Land Alliance!

We are excited that you want to learn more about our work and would consider leaving a legacy gift to The Frontera Land Alliance for the preservation of open natural lands, working farms and water and wildlife.

Because so much of our land conservation work is about ensuring that the places we save today will be protected forever, legacy gifts (also known as “planned gifts or estate planning”) are indispensable to both land trusts and the Land Trust Alliance. There is no better or easier way to make a difference for land conservation many years from now.

Your will or living trust is an important way to provide for family and friends, plan the management and disposition of your estate and ensure a lasting legacy for the causes that have special meaning for you. Such legacy gifts can be changed at any time you choose, giving you maximum flexibility in your planning. You will also enjoy peace of mind knowing that your property will be put to good use in the future, but your cash flow will not be affected today.

You may choose to specify that The Frontera Land Alliance receives a specific dollar amount or asset, a percentage of your estate, a contingent bequest in case you outlive other heirs or a portion of the residue (remainder) of your estate after provisions for friends and family are met. Creating or updating your estate requires careful planning with the help of an estate-planning attorney. Bequest language can vary from state to state and from country to country. Thus, it is always best to use an attorney who understands local estate laws. With that in mind, we suggest providing this packet to your attorney, and we’re here to help should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

The Frontera Board of Directors



Photo by: Richard Love

THE FRONTERA LAND ALLIANCE

Board of Directors



Board of Directors: Back row: Dave Turner, Marci Turner, Cindy Hoffmann, & Scott Cutler. Front row: Harrison Plourde and Tina Crosby. Not pictured: Mike Gaglio and Amy Wagler. Photo taken by Fred Eliand.

Scott Cutler / President

A founding member of The Frontera Land Alliance, Scott is a retired Curator of Collections and Exhibits from the Centennial Museum at The University of Texas at El Paso. He has degrees in Wildlife Management and Biology from Humboldt State University and San Francisco State University. A resident of El Paso for more than 25 years, he has been active in numerous local conservation organizations involved with preserving open space.

Cynthia Hoffmann / Vice President

Cynthia "Cindy" Peak Hoffmann, Certified Fundraising Executive (CFRE), has been a professional fundraiser and philanthropic advisor for over 20 years and has successfully led annual, major gift, endowment, and capital campaigns and achieved record-breaking results. Cindy holds a Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing from The University of Texas at El Paso. Currently a Realtor for Keller Williams Realty, Cindy is a partner in the Smart Living Team, your source for green homes, healthier living, and smart real estate investments. Cindy is involved in

many local organizations and currently serves as the President of the Board of the Southern New Mexico State Planning Committee.

Dave Turner / Treasurer

Dave Turner was born and raised in Maine and graduated from the University of Maine. After his time in the military, he lived in New Hampshire and worked for Sylvania for 28 years before retiring and coming to El Paso. Dave spends his time working on environmental and social issues for the betterment of this community. He and his wife founded one of the first neighborhood associations in the city. He was a Master Gardener for ten years, during which time he served as President for two years. Dave was a member of the Parks Advisory Board for nine years and served as Chairman for six of the nine years. His past volunteer activities also include, but are not limited to, contributing to the preservation of Thunder Canyon and the passage of El Paso's current Dark Sky Ordinance.

Michael Gaglio / Secretary

Michael Gaglio has B.S. and M.S. degrees in Biology from the University of Texas at El Paso. His career spans 15 years as a biologist and environmental consultant, and in 2007 he co-founded High Desert Native Plants, LLC, an environmental consulting and restoration services company with a focus on conservation-oriented solutions for the development industry. Michael has worked with entities such as The Nature Conservancy and The Trust for Public Land as well as with developers and commercial real-estate practitioners. He became involved with The Frontera Land Alliance in 2007 and also volunteers with the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department performing deer surveys and dove banding.

THE FRONTERA LAND ALLIANCE

Board of Directors

Dr. Amy Wagler / Board of Directors

Amy Wagler, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor of Mathematical Sciences at The University of Texas at El Paso. Though her professional activities are not directly related to ecology and preservation, she is passionate about preservation of natural spaces, particularly in the border region, and she is thrilled about working with Frontera Land Alliance to promote knowledge and appreciation of our natural environment.

Marci Turner / Board of Directors

Born and raised in New York, Marci has been in El Paso for more than 50 years. She founded and was President of The Mexico Connection, Inc. for 28 years. Marci served on the Board of Directors of the El Paso Better Business Bureau for six years, and as its Chairman of the Board for two years. She served on the Civil Service Commission for two years. Retiring in 2004, she has been active in various environmental issues including, but not limited to, the preservation of Thunder Canyon and the passage of El Paso's current Dark Sky Ordinance. She and her husband Dave founded and are still active in one of the first Neighborhood Associations in the city.

Harrison Plourde / Board of Directors

Harrison is a certified professional urban planner working as the lead long-range planner in the Planning & Inspection Department of the City of El Paso. He has over seven years of professional experience in municipal planning, focusing on form-based code and comprehensive plan implementation, code writing, and urban design. As a City employee, he has served as a staff assistant to the Open Space Advisory Board since 2012, and is an avid hiker and advocate of conservation practices. A native of upstate New York, Harrison earned his Master of Urban

& Regional Planning degree from Ball State University, and has lived in El Paso since 2012.

Tina Crosby / Board of Directors

Tina Crosby is a Branch Manager for WestStar Bank, and has 27 years of banking experience. Tina was born in Huntington Beach, California and moved to El Paso in 1989 as an army brat. She is passionate about community involvement. She is excited to be working with the Frontera Land Alliance to promote knowledge and appreciation of our natural environment.





Photo by: Richard Love

Frontera Advisory Board

Frontera Advisory Board members act as advisors in our community who assist and support us in the protection of conserved lands and engage in land-conservation challenges regionally. The Advisory Board helps us accomplish our mission by providing ideas and insights to the Frontera organization. We value their support as we strive to increase awareness about the necessity of protecting our natural environment.

Lois Balin: Urban Wildlife Biologist, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department

Lois Balin is an Urban Wildlife Biologist for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, based in El Paso now for 20 years. Lois received her B.S. in Wildlife and Fisheries Science at the University of Arizona and her M.S. in Range and Wildlife Science at Texas A&M University. Her professional work includes providing technical guidance on sensitive urban development and management for the City and County of El Paso, promoting biodiversity, providing educational programs and resources on wildlife, ecology, native plant landscaping, habitat and conservation-related issues, and conducting wildlife research on burrowing owls.

Marshall Carter-Tripp: Former associate professor of political science and visiting professor at UTEP, and retired US diplomat

Marshall's professional career has been divided between university teaching/research, diplomatic service, and museum management. Her academic work focused on African affairs and the US Government. Her diplomatic service included a broad range of Foreign Service positions, with wide exposure to both the Department and several geographic areas, focusing on international security affairs, human rights, and science and environment issues. From June 2006 to October 2010 she served as the Director of the Centennial Museum at The University of Texas at El Paso.

Sarah Elena Dillabough: Sustainability Specialist, Creosote Collaborative

Sarah Elena has more than five years in sustainable project management. She received her B.A. from Austin College (Sherman, Texas) with majors in Environmental Studies and International Relations, and a minor in French. She volunteered as an AmeriCorps VISTA with the City of El Paso Resilience and Sustainability Department. Before serving in her current position at Creosote Collaborative, she was the Food Donor Relations Manager at El Pasoans Fighting Hunger Food Bank.

Anne M. Giangiulio: Associate Professor of Art Graphic Design at UTEP

Anne M. Giangiulio is an Associate Professor of Art, Graphic Design at The University of Texas at El Paso. She earned her BA in English from Villanova University and a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Graphic and Interactive Design from The Tyler School of Art and Architecture of Temple University in Philadelphia, PA. In between, she served as a Peace Corps volunteer teaching English as a foreign language in the West African archipelago of Cape Verde.

Marty Loya: Owner of Growing with Sara Farm, LLC

Marty and Ralph Loya own a six-acre farm in Socorro, TX called Growing with Sara Farm, L.L.C. that is managed by Shahid Mustafa. They have kept the family farm in operation and in the family for over 100 years. Marty Loya has over 30 years of experience in the software development, customer services and project management areas. She has special expertise in software systems structure, engineering and design. Marty attended UTEP and studied Electrical Engineering. She recently obtained her Project Management Professional (PMP) certification.

Diana Moy: Park Interpreter / Volunteer Coordinator, Wyler Aerial Tramway State Park

Diana Moy was born and raised in the El Paso-Juarez border region; since her early years she was exposed to and interested in nature and the environment. She has a B.S. in Environmental Science with a concentration in Biology from The University of Texas at El Paso. She has worked for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the Upper Mississippi River Fish and Wildlife Refuge, and she currently works for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department at Wyler Aerial Tramway State Park, affiliated with the Franklin Mountains State Park.

Erica Rocha: Co-Founder of G128

Erica Rocha co-founded G128 along with her business partner Mrs. Ana Detzel, an Advanced Placement (AP) Environmental Science Teacher at a local high school. G128 is an organization focused on attacking single-use plastic, non-recyclable and hard-to-recycle items.

Richard Teschner: Donor and editor

Richard Teschner, Professor Emeritus of Linguistics and Spanish who taught full-time at UTEP from 1976-2010 and part-time ever since, is the sole author of six books and the co-author of 18. He's been active in El Paso land conservation and politics since 2003 and the neighborhood-based movement to preserve Resler Canyon. He works with Neighborhood Associations (N.A.) including the Segundo Barrio's Southside N.A. He is an honorary member of the Castner Heights N.A., the first to support the current campaign to permanently conserve Castner Range.





Photo by: Richard Love

VISION GIFTING

The Frontera Land Alliance has a shared responsibility to conserve and educate the community about our natural world: to use what we need, make smarter choices, and pass on to future generations the beauty, wildlife, water and natural resources we have today. Investing in conservation is also an investment in our economy since tourists are drawn to the region for the mountains, the Rio Grande, our parks and our natural areas. This vision is put into play by The Frontera Land Alliance facilitating a shared community commitment to protecting our current open spaces for future generations.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, from 1982 to 1997 more than 2.6 million acres of Texas rural land was converted to urban uses and the annual rate of conversion is accelerating. Because ninety-four percent of Texas land is privately owned, maintaining open space is ultimately up to us. About 80 percent of Texas farms and ranches are now less than 500 acres. Farms and ranches between 500 and 2,000 acres in size are declining rapidly. As these open lands shrink, we face the dilemma of how to maintain ranches, farms and open areas that sustain the rivers, lakes, and aquifers, wildlife habitat, help clean our air, and provide places for healthful recreation & renewal. That is where The Frontera Land Alliance can help!

With your vision to support Frontera’s efforts to conserve natural areas, farms and ranchlands, you will help protect our community’s clean water, clean air, wildlife habitat, and open spaces that improve our quality of life.



Defend the Land

Land conservation is meant to last forever! Frontera is working with people in the region to assist and educate them on how to protect their property in perpetuity.

Stewardship and Defense Fund assists with long-term oversight of conservation easements and fee-simple properties

Frontera Endowment assists with management of programs, land preservation, operations and water conservation in perpetuity.



Photo by: Richard Love

VISION GIFTING

Engage the Community

Community conservation is an approach to land conservation that starts with people themselves. In order to preserve land and water we need more people who care about these issues, to become involved. Frontera started an outreach program with the purpose of engaging community members in our region about the benefits of land conservation. We are successfully engaging organizations, businesses and civic groups.

Nature Discovery Program focuses on education and recreation and hosts monthly activities that are open to all. This program offers individuals the opportunity to get outside and experience nature.



Ensure Quality and Accountability

Frontera follows rigorous national standards, policies and procedures. We have always worked for and will be committed in perpetuity to the conservation of water, wildlife, farms, ranches and the natural world that surrounds us.

Water, Wildlife and Land Preservation Program helps us educate and work with landowners (public or private) to protect their property and leave a perpetual legacy.

Conservation Easements placed on lands ensure that the land will remain as open natural space, working farms or ranches, in perpetuity.



Photo by: Richard Love

Special Places... Wide-Open Spaces

The Frontera Land Alliance works with landowners to **protect their property in perpetuity**. This is accomplished by placing a conservation easement on the property, which protects the land.

95% of land in Texas is privately owned; Frontera works with those landowners, as well as many governmental owners, to protect that land in its natural state, and in accordance with the wishes of the landowner, in perpetuity.

Frontera believes that by reaching out to educate the community on the value of our regional landscape and its long-term benefits for us all, we can create a more sustainable environment for both present and future generations.

A few of Frontera's accomplishments:

- Established the 91-acre Wakeem/Teschner Nature Preserve, known as Resler Canyon
- Preserved a 26-acre parcel of land in an established neighborhood, known as Thunder Canyon
- In 2019, engaged with over 8,750 children, teens and adults, hosting over 72 events that exposed them to El Paso's natural environment
- Spearheaded the Castner Range National Monument Campaign that seeks to preserve the Range's 7,081 acres in perpetuity
- Partnered with Fort Bliss, UTEP, EPCC, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts
- Established an endowment with the El Paso Community Foundation
- Obtained permission to operate and work in the state of New Mexico for land conservation
- Established Frontera Land Alliance as the only Nationally-Accredited Land Trust in the region.

Since our founding in 2004, as a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, The Frontera Land Alliance has been saving El Paso's "special places and wide open spaces." Our growing region continually faces additional pressures on existing land and open space. Without addressing these issues now, the opportunities we have today will have passed us by, and the opportunities for conservation will be much more limited. We need to keep this conversation at the forefront in our community because conservation doesn't happen overnight, and doesn't simply happen by itself.



THE FRONTERA LAND ALLIANCE

Success, Programs and Projects!

The Frontera Land Alliance (Frontera), a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, was founded in 2004 when community members realized there was an urgent need to preserve the most important remaining natural and working lands in the greater El Paso and southern New Mexico region, and to do so through conservation easements if possible. Since 2004 Frontera has developed the knowledge and expertise to provide guidance to land owners wanting to maintain the character of their land. We serve the counties of El Paso, Hudspeth, and Culberson (in Texas), and Doña Ana and Otero (in New Mexico). Frontera works with government, non-government, non-profits and private landowners to preserve their land with easements. Frontera is valued as a leader in environmental stewardship, is non-partisan, and is nationally accredited.

Frontera's core values are what drive the organization. We believe that education builds awareness resulting in smarter choices regarding the protection and conservation of our natural resources. We significantly affect the region's quality of life and contribute to the community's health. We focus on the need to strategically preserve valuable open space for the natural habitat and beauty it provides our community and its visitors. Investing in conservation is also an investment in the local economy and our quality of life.

We are the people working to preserve our special places and wide open spaces -- not just for the rest of our lives, but for the lives of our grandchildren, their grandchildren, and beyond.

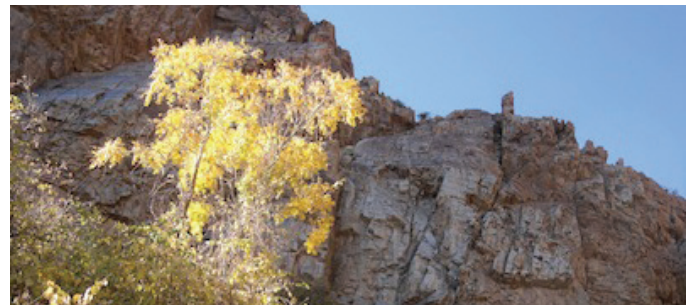
Frontera has a wide range of programs, including, but not limited to:



Exploring new conservation easements and maintaining existing ones. Frontera continually seeks out landowners interested in placing a conservation easement on all or part of their natural open-space, farm or ranch. Frontera then monitors the lands which have been placed under our care.

Thunder Canyon is a 24-acre arroyo set aside in 2007 through an exciting partnership between the Canyon's neighbors, the City of El Paso and Frontera. The people living around the canyon worked with the City and Frontera to forge an agreement through which the City purchased the land from the developer and the residents agreed to repay the City. Frontera holds the conservation easement that ensures the land will never be developed. In the end, everyone is pleased with this arrangement!

Supporting the Castner Range Active Learning Project. Frontera annually leads this event, with numerous other skilled volunteers and partners, to teach students about our region's natural surroundings and cultural history.



Sponsoring and supporting volunteers. Volunteers throughout 2019 have donated a total of 600 hours of their time to assist in reaching out to and interacting with nearly 9,000 children, teens and adults. Various volunteers activities include, but are not limited to the removal of trash from Resler Canyon, removing graffiti from Franklin Mountains State Park, and collecting native seeds for replanting.

Underwriting unique educational and outreach programs. Frontera brings people together to strengthen our Conservation Community by preserving our regional landscape which is rich in history, natural resources, breathtaking views and recreational opportunities. In 2019 we engaged over 8,725 people! We did this together by hosting and participating in over 72 events. These activities ranged from volunteer work days, guided walks, presentations, hosting booths, to attending meetings and presenting to local organizations about Frontera's mission and current programs and projects. We sponsored over six bilingual talks and walks. We traveled throughout the region, from the West Side, the Upper Valley, Las Cruces, the Northeast and Central El Paso to the Mission Valley.



Exploring creative projects. Frontera is working with partners at area schools to create and present curriculum about native plants, water conservation and healthy soils. Students are provided the opportunity to test what they learned in the classroom and generate citizen science data first-hand during field trips to the Rio Bosque and Keystone wetlands as well as learning about organic farming at the Growing with Sara Farms in Socorro, Texas.

Thank you for your support over the years!





What Resler Canyon Means to Me and to El Paso

“Early in August of 2003, my neighbors and I were shocked to learn that the 91-acre Resler Canyon was owned by a developer who had just announced plans to build 196 single-family houses there. We had always assumed—naively—that this West Side canyon was a City park and would be kept in its natural state forever.

The Coronado Neighborhood Association (CNA), in which I lived and where Resler Canyon lies, became actively involved in working to preserve this land. It was clear that developing the land would require the installation of extensive water lines and sewage systems (plus an open-air reservoir). The canyon's slopes would be damaged and denuded by construction activities (including several new streets), exposing the barren earth to increased erosion. The de facto nature preserve, home to deer, rabbits, foxes, raccoons and other species, would be lost forever, and its loss would negatively alter the character of our neighborhood.

At first my interest was small. I was heavily involved with my work as a professor of linguistics at The University of Texas at El Paso. I was also processing the estate of my mother after her death on February 8, 2003. By October, 2004, as my life settled down, it occurred to me: Why not purchase Resler Canyon? So I approached Maria Trunk, president of the newly formed local land trust, The Frontera Land Alliance, and broached the idea. After many months of discussions and negotiations with the property owner, a deal was finally reached. On October 11th, 2005, the Times announced that I would give Frontera the canyon's purchase price—\$1,868,500 (plus an eventual \$100,000 in attorneys' fees)—so Frontera could buy the canyon from the owner. The deal was finalized on Dec. 23, 2005.

So what does Resler Canyon mean to me and to El Paso? I'm happy I was able to play a role in preserving this outstanding arroyo within the City limits that people will be able to enjoy forever. But it also serves another equally important function in my mind. It shows that calm, persistent and well-organized “real people” who are rooted in their neighborhoods and have access to knowledgeable attorneys can make a difference. And in this instance, being able to work, from the outset, with a 501(c)3 land trust like Frontera provided the expertise needed to make this dream a reality.

I understand that building on certain types of land is necessary while building on other types of land is counterproductive at best and dangerous at worst. Conserved in perpetuity and always available for “nature” experiences such as guided hikes, animal watching, plant identification and all-around “deep breathing,” Resler Canyon is proof that every-day people, land conservationists, and local governments can and must work hand-in-hand to insure that our remaining important open spaces are protected and available for future generations. ”

-Richard Teschner



Photo by: Richard Love

GIVING OPTIONS

Giving to Frontera through the El Paso Community Foundation

The El Paso Community Foundation was established in 1977 as a permanent endowment for the long-term benefit of El Paso, far west Texas, southern New Mexico and northern Chihuahua, Mexico. The Community Foundation has long been a highly-trusted philanthropic advisor, serving as a trusted charitable resource for donors, nonprofit organizations, and the community at large. Its mission is to establish permanent charitable endowments, provide a vehicle for donors' varied interests, promote local philanthropy, and provide leadership and resources to address local challenges and opportunities.

The Frontera Land Alliance (Frontera) has been working with the El Paso Community Foundation for several years. The Community Foundation manages the Frontera's endowment, freeing Frontera to focus on what it does best — seeking and using legal means to permanently preserve El Paso's natural beauty, typically by means of conservation easements.

A gift to the Frontera Endowment is a simple, safe way to support Frontera's various projects.

Would you like to make a donation to Frontera or the Castner Range Program? Go to epcf.org/give/donate and answer "Yes" to the question about giving to a specific project or organization. Enter "Frontera Land Alliance Endowment" or "Castner Range Program," then fill out the rest of the form. Hit "Submit," and your donation is complete.

If you prefer to donate by check, please make the check out to the El Paso Community Foundation and in the memo field indicate if the donation is for the Frontera Land Alliance or the Castner Range Program. Please mail your check to the El Paso Community Foundation, P.O. Box 272, El Paso, TX, 79943-0272.

You will receive an acknowledgment letter for tax purposes. Thank you for your support of our valuable open space and natural resources.



Photo by: Richard Love

GIVING OPTIONS

Outright Gifts

Cash. The simplest, most direct form of a charitable gift is cash. The amount of the gift to a charity is deductible in the year of the gift, with certain limitations.

Appreciated Securities. A donor also may give publicly traded appreciated securities to a charity, which may be more tax efficient for the donor than a simple gift of cash. Upon receipt, the charity sells the securities and keeps the proceeds, which can be applied to whatever purpose the donor designates. If the donor owned the securities for more than one year, the donor receives an income tax charitable deduction based on the fair market value of the securities while avoiding the capital gains tax that would have been due if the donor sold the securities. If, on the other hand, the donor wishes to give securities that have decreased in value since purchase, the donor probably should sell the securities first to be eligible to take a loss, and give the cash proceeds to the charity.

A Bargain Sale. A bargain sale is a combination gift and sale, where the donor sells an asset to a charity at a price below fair market value, thereby allowing the charity to sell the asset at market price. This transaction enables the donor to recoup some cash from the sale, while receiving a charitable tax deduction in the amount equal to the difference between the fair market value and the sales price.

Real Property. A donor can make a gift of real property to a charity, and the charity can either sell the real property or keep it for its own use. The benefits to the donor include: An income tax deduction equal to the appraised fair market value of the property; the avoidance of capital gains tax on the transfer; and for large estates, the reduction of the donor's gross estate for estate tax purposes.

Tangible Personal Property. Donors can gift items such as artwork, collectibles, books, equipment, or other items of tangible personal property. The nonprofit can either keep the property, display it, or sell it and use the proceeds. By making the gift, the donor will avoid capital gains tax liability and may receive a charitable deduction for the full fair market value of the gift, or a portion thereof.

IRA Rollover (QCD). A charitable IRA rollover (also referred to as a qualified charitable distribution ("QCD")) allows donors 70½ years or older to make tax-free gifts of up to \$100,000 per year from their IRAs to eligible nonprofits. The funds must be transferred directly from the IRA to the qualified charity. The amount rolled over to the charity may satisfy the donor's required minimum distribution, and the donor avoids income tax liability for the QCD.



Photo by: Richard Love

GIVING OPTIONS

Deferred Gifts

Gifts Under Wills or Living Trusts. A gift to a charity can be included in a new will or living trust, or added to an existing will or living trust through a simple codicil or amendment. The gift may be a set dollar amount, a percentage of an estate, or specific assets such as real property, securities, or tangible personal property. These types of gifts are the most popular planned gift—they are the easiest to make and they allow the donor to retain use of all of his or her assets during the donor's lifetime. The donor may even create a conservation easement in a will or trust to be placed on the donor's real property at death. Finally, the donor may restrict the use of the gift though the donor should visit with the charity to ensure the restrictions are acceptable.

Life Insurance Policies and Annuities. A donor can designate a charity as a beneficiary to receive the death benefit from life insurance policies and annuities upon the donor's death. This method allows the donor to provide a large gift to benefit a nonprofit — often more than the donor might be able to donate outright—and the proceeds that are distributed to the charity are exempt from any estate taxes that might be due for large estates.

Charitable Remainder Trusts. Charitable Remainder Trusts ("CRTs") allow a donor to provide for certain individuals (including the donor himself or herself) in the near term, and then for the charity in the long term. They can be established either during life or at death. To establish a CRT, the donor transfers assets to the trust, which thereafter pays an income stream to one or more named beneficiaries (including the donor if the CRT is established during life) for the beneficiaries' lifetimes, for a term of up to 20 years, or for a combination of both. If established during life, the CRT can help the donor avoid capital gains tax on the future sale of appreciated trust assets that are first contributed to the trust, thereby increasing the income stream, while at the same time providing the donor with a charitable income tax deduction for a portion of the value of the assets placed in the trust. The CRT also may be eligible for a charitable deduction in the context of transfer taxes. After the CRT terminates, the balance goes to the charity. There are two types of CRTs: the charitable remainder annuity trust ("CRAT") and the charitable remainder unitrust ("CRUT"). The CRAT pays the individual beneficiary a fixed periodic amount (an annuity) while the CRUT pays the individual beneficiary a variable amount based on a certain percentage of the value of the trust assets re-determined each year.



Photo by: Richard Love

GIVING OPTIONS

Deferred Gifts

Charitable Lead Trusts. The charitable lead trust (“CLT”) is the converse of the CRT described above. The charity will receive either the trust’s income, an annuity, or a unitrust amount for a term of years, after which the balance may pass to individual beneficiaries. Again, CLTs can be established during life or at death and generally provide the same sorts of income tax and transfer tax benefits as do CRTs.

Retained Life Estate Gift. In a retained life estate, a donor transfers real property, such as a residence, vacation home, farm, or ranch, to a charity, but retains the right to use, rent out, or live in the property for life or for a specified term of years. The donor covers the property expenses during the donor’s lifetime. In exchange, the donor receives an immediate income tax deduction based on the fair market value of the property minus the present value of the retained life estate.

Retirement Plans. Similar to a gift of life insurance, a donor can name a nonprofit as the beneficiary of a portion or all of the donor’s IRA, 401(k), or other retirement plans. While most individual beneficiaries would be required to pay income taxes on most inherited retirement plans, the amount distributed to a charity avoids income tax liability, making these types of assets an excellent source for those inclined to charitable giving. The amount distributed to a charity also helps reduce or eliminate the payment of estate taxes for large taxable estates.






Photo by: Richard Love

GIVING OPTIONS

Endowments

With the Charity Itself. Many charities accept gifts in the form of an endowment, which generally specifies that the gifted asset (the “principal”) is to be invested and that the income generated from the principal (or a portion thereof) is to be used for the charity’s charitable purposes on a current basis. Endowments allow for larger gifts to establish a legacy that can extend for generations. Many times, the donor may choose to name the endowment to honor a family member. Donors also may contribute to previously existing endowments in most cases. Endowments may be made during lifetime or at death and can be used in conjunction with many of the types of gifts described above.

With a Community Foundation. Many smaller charities have established endowments at local community foundations, which manage the principal for the charity in exchange for a modest management fee. The primary reason to utilize a community foundation is to take advantage of the economies of scale associated with the investment of larger amounts of funds under management at a foundation as compared to the smaller charity. Similar to an endowment managed by the charity itself, the income or a specified portion thereof is distributed to the charity for current use. Even if the charity has not established an endowment for itself, a donor also generally may establish an endowment at a community foundation for the charity of choice (with some limitations).

Contact a financial, tax, and legal professionals for direction and advice

Note that the gift of any property other than cash or publicly traded securities likely will require qualified appraisals before the donor may take advantage of any income tax or transfer tax benefits. Also, some of the techniques described above are quite sophisticated and the donor is advised to visit with his or her financial, tax, and legal professionals before engaging in such techniques. Not all charities are able to accept gifts of all types of property or gifts from all the described techniques. Accordingly, the donor should visit with the charity of choice to determine whether the charity is able to participate in the planned gift. Finally, the donor also should visit with the charity of choice to discuss any restrictions the donor wishes to place upon any gift, including gifts of cash, to ensure that the restrictions are acceptable to the charity.

The Frontera Land Alliance

Phone: 915-351-8352

www.fronteralandalliance.org

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Protecting **forever** natural areas, working farms and ranches, water and wildlife for future generations in the west Texas and southern New Mexico region of the Chihuahuan Desert

Photo by: Lois Balin



the
FRONTERA
LAND
ALLIANCE

Designed by:  CREOSOTE COLLABORATIVE