

A GUIDE TO MAKING YOUR  
PHILANTHROPIC WISHES KNOWN



# CREATING YOUR LEGACY



# Your LEGACY

## **MAKING A MEANINGFUL DIFFERENCE**

As a valued member of our Dysphonia International community, your commitment to our mission and vision has been instrumental in driving positive impact to research, education, awareness and support for people affected by spasmodic dysphonia and related voice conditions. Now, we invite you to consider a way to continue your support well into the future.

Our Legacy Society Program is a meaningful way for you to make a lasting impact on an organization that you care about. A bequest designated today is a simple yet impactful way to ensure that your passions live on.

## **EMPOWER YOUR GIVING**

By including Dysphonia International in your estate plan, you have the opportunity to make a significant contribution that may not have been possible during your lifetime. This will enable you to support programs that matter most to you.

## **CUSTOMIZE YOUR LEGACY**

You have the flexibility to specify how your bequest will be used, whether to fund research or contribute to a specific initiative. Your wishes will be honored, ensuring your legacy reflects your values and priorities.

## **ENSURE LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY**

Your gift will help fund critical resources that enable us to continue to serve our community and expand our reach to help even more people. Your support will allow us to navigate challenges and seize opportunities for positive change.

## **LEAVE A LASTING IMPACT**

By making a bequest, you join a community of individuals who are dedicated to making a difference, not just today but for generations to come. Your legacy will inspire others to follow in your footsteps and continue the tradition of giving back.

As a Dysphonia International Legacy Society member, you will have the comfort of knowing your gift will ensure the ongoing viability of our organization, which is dedicated to leading the effort to eradicate spasmodic dysphonia and related voice conditions.

We understand that estate planning is a deeply personal and thoughtful process, and we appreciate you considering Dysphonia International as a possible beneficiary. Your support is a beacon of hope, and your legacy will continue to shine brightly in the lives of those we serve.

# The PROCESS



CONSULT WITH  
A FINANCIAL  
PROFESSIONAL



CHOOSE THE  
BEST OPTION  
FOR YOU



SHARE YOUR  
WISHES WITH  
YOU FAMILY



NOTIFY US AND  
BE PART OF THE  
LEGACY SOCIETY

# Giftgiving OPTIONS

## GIFTING THROUGH RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS

Donating retirement assets to charity as part of your estate plan can offer significant tax advantages. When you name a charity as a beneficiary to receive all or a portion of your IRA, 401(k), or 403(b) assets upon death, the benefits will multiply. Neither your heirs nor your estate will pay income taxes on the charitable distribution. Moreover, since charities are tax-exempt, the entirety of your gift will directly support the programs of Dysphonia International.

## GIFTING THROUGH A DONOR-ADVISED FUND

A donor-advised fund (DAF) is a valuable tool to ensure your philanthropy wishes, enabling you to contribute during and after your lifetime. You can ensure that Dysphonia International will continue to be supported by naming it the beneficiary of the entire account or designating it to receive a percentage of the fund through annual grants until your DAF assets are depleted. The DAF can be funded in many ways, including securities and real estate, which can provide tax advantages. Please contact your financial advisor, who manages your DAF, to discuss options.

## GIFTING LIFE INSURANCE

Life insurance is an excellent way to make a charitable gift. You can leave a portion of the policy to Dysphonia International and still benefit your family. However, you can also transfer the policy to the charity. When you do, you are entitled to immediate charitable deductions for income tax purposes and the policy is removed from the estate. To make a gift of life insurance, please contact your insurance provider, request a beneficiary form and add Dysphonia International as a beneficiary on your policy.

## GIFTING THROUGH A WILL OR TRUST

When creating your will or revocable trust, you can designate a percentage or fixed amount of your assets to be gifted to Dysphonia International. To enable a gift through your will or trust, please consult with your lawyer.

*Creating a plan that is the perfect balance for you and your family is key!*



## THE POWER OF A LEGACY GIFT

Legacy gifts have the power to transform an organization. In 2019, Mr. Mark Porter passed away, and his estate notified us that he had allocated a gift valued at more than one million dollars to Dysphonia International. His gift allows us to increase our commitment to scientific research directed toward diagnosis, treatment and a cure for spasmodic dysphonia and related voice conditions. In recognition of his extreme generosity, the Porter Research Fund was created, which formally commits a substantial portion of this bequest to fund research. The remainder will be used to support and enhance our efforts in education, awareness, and support.

## SNAPSHOT ON GIFTING

Here is an overview on ways to give:

- Designate Dysphonia International as a full, partial or contingent beneficiary of your retirement account.
- Create a distribution plan for gifts to Dysphonia International through a donor-advised fund.
- Name Dysphonia International as a beneficiary of your life insurance.
- Include Dysphonia International in your will or revocable trust.
- Notify us of your estate plans, so we can thank you and welcome you to the Dysphonia International Legacy Society.

Remember to review your estate plan regularly with your financial advisor and attorney for consistency with current laws and regulations.

# Emma's STORY



It was 1984 when I was first diagnosed with spasmodic dysphonia (SD) and had no treatment options except speech therapy. I was a single mom working as a bank teller in a busy bank in upstate New York, and I still remember how badly this impacted my self-esteem. An ENT referred me to an otolaryngologist in Tampa who treated SD with Botox. I had my first injection in 2002. After 18 years, I finally had a voice again that wasn't shaky and hoarse, even though it was only temporary. My doctor recommended that I attend a meeting of the Tampa Dysphonia Support Group. For the first time, I heard people with SD speak, and I actually shed tears to be with people who understood completely.

In 2010, I was asked by Dysphonia International to be involved with the Dystonia Advocacy Network. I went to Washington, DC, to present an award to the Congressperson from my district. This was the best thing that ever happened to me. I had not done any public speaking since my symptoms of SD began, but now, here I was, talking to legislators about a topic so important to me. This organization has helped me improve my self-esteem and feel great again. Assuring that the NSDA, now Dysphonia International, can continue to help others is so important to me, and that's why I included Dysphonia International in my estate plan.

*Thank you for your  
continued support!*



DYSPHONIA INTERNATIONAL IS A DESIGNATED 501(C)(3)  
NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION (FEIN: 86-3907079).

**SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE!**

