

Continue your impact with Planned Giving

CMHA's loyal donors know how important it is that we continue to speak up for equal access to the best possible mental health. When generous donors include CMHA in their will, their bequests – whether modest or major – help provide sustainable, ongoing funding for that strong, independent advocacy.

Whether you want to target support to a particular area or help secure the foundation for our independent voice, there is simple language below you can use when updating or drafting your will.

There are a few different ways people can plan to support a charity after they pass away – bequests, gifts of securities, real estate and property or as a designated beneficiary. However, the most common planned gift we receive is a gift given as a bequest through the donor's will.

Ensuring your wishes are clear

To make sure your intentions are clear it is recommended to include the legal name of the organization, address and charitable registration number.

Legal Name of Charity: Canadian Mental Health Association, B.C. Division
Address: 905-1130 West Pender Street
Vancouver, BC V6E 4A4
Charitable Registration No. 88844 1995 RR 0001

We encourage you to connect with us so we make sure your wishes can be fulfilled. We'd also be pleased to recognize your support and invite you to events. If you prefer anonymity, that will be respected. Contact the donor support team at fundraising@cmha.bc.ca or 1-800-555-8222.

Types of bequests

When adding a bequest to your will, there are three types of gift for you to consider.

- *Specific Gift:* states a specific amount of money or gift of property to be made
- *Residual Gift:* gives or a set percentage of what is left in the estate after debts, taxes, expenses and any specific gifts are paid.
- *Contingency Gift:* takes effect only if a person is not survived by other individuals.

Sample Clauses

Specific Bequest: Unrestricted: "I give to the Canadian Mental Health Association, B.C. Division the sum of \$...(or percentage of my estate) to be used for the general purposes of the Canadian Mental Health Association, B.C. Division at the discretion of the Board of Directors."

Residual Bequest: Unrestricted: “I give to the Canadian Mental Health Association, B.C. Division (*stated % percentage*) of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate for the general purposes of the Canadian Mental Health Association, B.C. Division at the discretion of the Board of Directors.”

Contingent Bequest: Unrestricted: “If (*name of primary beneficiaries*) do/es not survive me, or shall die within ninety days from the date of my death, or as a result of a common disaster, then I give to the Canadian Mental Health Association, B.C. Division (*describe cash, property, or percentage or residual estate*) for the general purposes of the Canadian Mental Health Association, B.C. Division at the discretion of the Board of Directors.”

Frequently Asked Questions

How will my gift be used?

Unrestricted gifts allow CMHA to address critical needs that are not funded, and to resource our independent advocacy and policy development work.

For any bequest over \$10,000, 25% will be protected in CMHA’s restricted endowment fund, which means the capital will remain in perpetuity and the interest go to support the charity every year.

Can CMHA issue a tax receipt to the estate?

Yes, a donor’s estate is eligible for a tax receipt for the gift’s full value when the gift is received. This can be applied to a donor’s final tax return.

Do you have to be wealthy to make a bequest?

Some of our bequests are from loyal donors of very modest means. Often people accumulate more assets than they realize. Taking into account real estate, life insurance and personal property, many people find they can provide for their loved ones and also make a charitable gift in their will.

Can I direct my gift to a particular area of need?

Bequests given to “the area of greatest need” are helpful because there is flexibility to use the funds to respond to shifting pressures over time. Some donors want to direct their gift to a particular area of need and these are also deeply appreciated. Please confirm with us so we make sure we can fulfil your intentions. Two options are to help us grow our purpose endowment funds, below:

A gift restricted “*for the purpose of independent mental health advocacy*” will grow the

Dr. Nancy Hall Speaking Up Speaking Out Endowment Fund

- Strengthening our voice in advocating for changes that improve mental health in BC.
- This endowment is held and managed by the Vancouver Foundation on behalf of CMHA.

A gift restricted “*for the purpose of child and youth mental health*” will grow the

Dr. Jean Moore Endowment Fund in Child and Youth Mental Health

- Enhancing the lives of children and youth living with or at risk for mental illness.
- This endowment is held and managed by the Vancouver Foundation on behalf of CMHA.

Questions? Fundraising@cmha.bc.ca or 1-800-555-8222