



LEGACY GIFTS TO LEWA

Thank you for considering Lewa Wildlife Conservancy (Lewa) in your long-term philanthropic plans! We are deeply honored by your commitment to our mission. Your legacy gift to Lewa represents an investment in a realistic vision of hope, coexistence, and optimism for both wildlife and people.

We are pleased to provide the information below in the hopes it will assist you in your planning process. If possible, it is very helpful if you can provide us with a confirmation of your intentions by downloading and filling out this [FORM](#) and sending it to us at legacy@lewa.org.

Although Lewa staff cannot offer legal or tax advice on planned giving programs, we are available to answer questions about the Endowment and other aspects of Lewa's financial requirements. **Our office can be reached at legacy@lewa.org or 646-883-2870. We look forward to speaking with you!**

The following options are available to donors wishing to make legacy gifts to Lewa Wildlife Conservancy. Please be sure to check your regional options for planned giving to ensure they meet your intended tax benefits and commitment capabilities.

There are three designations for legacy giving:

- **Lewa's Greatest Need Funding** allows contributors to provide grants for Lewa's annual budgeted activities on an unrestricted basis.
- **The Lewa Endowment** sets permanent funding for Lewa Wildlife Conservancy (Kenya) through our Endowment Fund. This fund maintains principal in a managed brokerage account and can yield up to 5% on that principal each year for grants for Lewa's annual operations. The Lewa Endowment Fund is managed by JP Morgan in New York. Income from the Endowment provides a critical source of financial support to Lewa's operations in Kenya.
- **Program Restricted Funding*** can be made to one of the following programs:
1) Conservation and Wildlife, 2) Security and Anti-Poaching, 3) Education, 4) Community Programs.

**In the unforeseen circumstance that a program should cease to exist, this gift will be directed to unrestricted support or the endowment fund to ensure the ongoing health and impact of Lewa's mission.*

If you wish to designate either a specific dollar amount or a percentage of your estate as a donation to Lewa Wildlife Conservancy, this type of bequest is suitable and simple to execute.

Sample Language for an Endowment Bequest:

"I give and bequeath unto the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy Endowment, which is maintained by Lewa Wildlife Conservancy USA, a charitable nonprofit organization duly recognized under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code with Federal Tax ID #87-0572187, the sum of \$_____ (or _____% of my estate)."

Sample Language for a Bequest to Lewa Allowing Board Discretion on its Uses:

"I give and bequeath unto Lewa Wildlife Conservancy USA, a charitable nonprofit organization duly recognized under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code with Federal Tax ID #87-0572187, the sum of \$_____ (or _____% of my estate), to be used for the general purpose of supporting the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy and other community-centric conservation projects in Africa".

1. Residuary Bequest

Under this option, you would make a gift to Lewa of the remainder of your estate, after all other bequests that you have designated to your loved ones and other charities have been satisfied, and after taxes, debts and expenses have been paid.

Sample Language for a Residuary Bequest to the Endowment:

"I give and bequeath unto the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy Endowment, which is maintained by Lewa Wildlife Conservancy USA, a charitable nonprofit organization duly recognized under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code with Federal Tax ID #87-0572187, ____% of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate, both real and personal."

Sample Language for a Residuary Bequest to Lewa Allowing Board Discretion:

"I give and bequeath unto Lewa Wildlife Conservancy USA, a charitable nonprofit organization duly recognized under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code with Federal Tax ID #87-0572187, ____% of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate, both real and personal, to be used for the general purpose of supporting the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy and other community-centric conservation projects in Africa".

2. Contingent Bequest

This bequest option is intended to allow the donor to require that certain conditions must be met, or that a certain event must occur, before the bequest can be fulfilled.

Sample Language for a Contingent Bequest to the Endowment:

"In the event that [insert name of primary beneficiary] does not survive me, or shall die during the administration of my estate, then I give and bequeath unto the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy Endowment, which is maintained by Lewa Wildlife Conservancy USA, a charitable nonprofit organization duly recognized under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code with Federal Tax ID #87-0572187, all of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate [or identify here a specific sum of money, a specific asset or the percentage of the residual estate that would have been given to the primary beneficiary]."

Sample Language for a Contingent Bequest to Lewa Allowing Board Discretion:

"In the event that [insert name of primary beneficiary] does not survive me, or shall die during the administration of my estate, then I give and bequeath unto Lewa Wildlife Conservancy USA, a charitable nonprofit organization duly recognized under section

501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code with Federal Tax ID #87-0572187, all of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate [or identify here a specific sum of money, a specific asset or the percentage of the residual estate that would have been given to the primary beneficiary], to be used for the general purpose of supporting the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy and other community-centric conservation projects in Africa”.

3. Donor Advised Fund (DAF) – Successor Beneficiary

Naming a charity as a successor beneficiary of your donor-advised fund removes those assets from your gross taxable estate, potentially reducing your heirs' tax burden. Many sponsoring organizations allow you to name successor advisors (such as your children) who can continue recommending grants from the fund for a specified period or designate the remaining balance after your passing.

How do I get started?

To execute a planned gift using your DAF, you generally need to request a succession plan form or beneficiary designation form directly from your fund's sponsor (e.g., Fidelity Charitable, Schwab Charitable).

Example: Fidelity Charitable allows you to create a legacy plan for your donor-advised fund (known as a Giving Account) by selecting from three distinct successor options. You can choose a single path or combine multiple options to customize how your remaining funds are used.

4. Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) / IRA Charitable Rollover Beneficiary

Donors 70½ or older can transfer up to a set annual limit (currently \$111,000 in 2026) directly from an IRA to a charity, satisfying required minimum distributions without counting as taxable income.

While traditionally used for direct, outright gifts, QCDs intersect with planned giving in a few powerful ways:

- **Funding Life-Income Gifts:** You can execute a once-in-a-lifetime QCD (up to a limit of \$53,000, adjusted for inflation) to directly fund a Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) or Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT). This allows you to support a charity while receiving guaranteed income payments in return.
- **Reducing Future Taxable Estates:** Making regular QCDs—especially for donors between ages 70 ½ and their Required Minimum Distributions-starting age—helps draw down the balance of your traditional IRA. This directly lowers future RMDs and decreases the overall taxable value of your estate for heirs.
- **Avoiding Higher Medicare Premiums:** By excluding QCDs from your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI), you can keep your reported income lower, which may help avoid IRMAA (Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount) surcharges on Medicare premiums.

It is important to note that QCDs must be transferred directly from the IRA custodian to the charity. If the funds hit your personal bank account first, the distribution will typically be counted as taxable income. Additionally, QCDs cannot be used to fund Donor-Advised Funds (DAFs) or private foundations.

5. Retirement Plan Beneficiary

A donor may designate the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy as a beneficiary of his/her IRA, using the name and tax identification number shown in Section I. When doing so, the donor must specify a percentage (in whole numbers, e.g., 1%, 7%, etc.) of the principal value of the IRA that will be distributed to the beneficiary upon the donor's death. The advantage of this method is that the assets donated from the IRA may not be included in the donor's taxable estate.

6. Insurance Policy Beneficiary

To designate Lewa as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy is a relatively straightforward process, and it may offer the donor tax benefits. The proceeds from the policy will be transferred to Lewa Wildlife Conservancy upon its termination.

Why might this option be suitable for me?

If you have a life insurance policy that is not needed for the financial protection of your family, then this option may work for you.

How do I get started?

Consult your attorney and tax advisor to verify the tax consequences and potential deductibility of your designation. Simply designate Lewa Wildlife Conservancy USA as the full or partial owner and irrevocable beneficiary of the policy.

7. Charitable Lead Trust

A Charitable Lead Trust is intended to create a three-way relationship between you, Lewa, and the trustee managing your account. During the life of this trust, your trustee issues annual payments either (a) to the Lewa Endowment, (b) to Lewa Wildlife Conservancy (unrestricted) to be used at the Board's discretion, or (c) to the specified program of the four options listed above. When the trust terminates, the remainder may be given to you or your beneficiaries. You may be able to specify the terms of the trust, either for a particular number of years, or for the life of an individual.

How do I get started?

Your attorney should assist you in creating a Charitable Lead Trust. You may want to involve a tax and/or financial advisor in this process, especially when choosing a trustee to manage your account. Listed below are two types of Charitable Lead Trusts available to donors:

- **A Charitable Lead Unitrust** provides variable annual income, based on the value of the trust's assets. Thus, annual payments to the Endowment of Lewa USA from the trust will fluctuate with the market.
- **A Charitable Lead Annuity Trust** provides the Endowment or Lewa USA with a fixed amount of income annually, which is specified when you establish the trust.

8. Charitable Remainder Trust

Under this option, the donor receives income from the trust during his or her lifetime, while dedicating the principal value of the trust to protect the future of Lewa. Setting up a Charitable Remainder Trust creates a three-way relationship between the donor, Lewa, and the Trustee managing your account. During the life of the trust, the Trustee issues annual payments to the donor or other designated individuals. You can set up a Charitable Remainder Trust for a fixed term up to 20 years or for the life of the beneficiary. Upon the donor's death, or when the trust term ends, the principal will be distributed to Lewa.

How do I get started?

Your attorney can help you establish a Charitable Remainder Trust. You should also involve a tax and/or financial advisor in this process, especially when choosing a trustee. Listed below are two types of Charitable Remainder Trusts available to donors:

- **A Charitable Remainder Unitrust** provides the donor with variable income, based on the value of the trust's assets. The annual payments made to you will fluctuate with the market.
- **A Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust** provides you with a fixed amount annually, which you can specify when the trust is established.

9. Donations of Tangible Property

Donating tangible personal property to Lewa Wildlife Conservancy is an excellent way to reduce the future value of your estate, while freeing yourself of expensive insurance fees and required maintenance associated with your personal property.

Why might this option be suitable for me?

If you possess artwork, collectibles, or vehicles that you no longer wish to maintain, a donation to Lewa Wildlife Conservancy may be ideal for you. You can make a personal property gift to Lewa Wildlife Conservancy without reducing your cash flow.

How do I get started?

Contact the Lewa Wildlife Conservancy office about the personal property that you wish to donate. We can help you determine if it is usable by the organization (a requirement for you to get a full tax deduction for its value).