PRIVATE FOUNDATION SERVICES

AND

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS

GREATER HOUSTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
Expanding Philanthropic Impact
As one of Houston’s largest grant makers, the Greater Houston Community Foundation provides individuals, families, corporations, foundations, and their advisors a way to amplify their generosity and to ensure their legacy by reaching beyond the expected and creating greater philanthropic impact.
For nearly 20 years, our highly customized, best-in-class solutions, and personalized, service-focused approach have enabled Houston’s giving community to not only positively affect individuals who benefit from their philanthropy, but also to help shape the city in which we live.

As a result, we have become a hub for the local giving community; connecting Houston’s leading donors to an extensive network of nonprofits and innovative solutions for the social sector. Working with us gives you access to this local knowledge base and the opportunity to target high-performing organizations for philanthropic partnership.
Our local emphasis allows us to counsel our donors on major opportunities for
giving in the region. Due to the experience and expertise of our staff, we can
also provide donors with an informed perspective on national and international
giving initiatives. We have developed an outstanding team of professionals with a
skill level equal to the country’s leading private foundations and private banks.

We actively convene high-level conversations regarding trends in giving, the
latest changes and practices in IRS policy, strategic giving options, and evolving
vehicles for philanthropy. We conduct all this with a top-tier, high-touch level
of service, as our local presence enables us to build a strong, responsive
relationship with our clients. In turn, we offer our clients multiple, well-thought-
out custom solutions that enable their giving to have increased impact.
Our clients are a vital part of Houston’s thriving donor network. By partnering with GHCF, you have a select opportunity to work with other local philanthropists, developing innovative and collaborative solutions that are changing our city’s future. We work creatively with you to achieve your philanthropic goals.

Private Foundation Services and Donor Advised Funds are the two primary ways our clients execute their philanthropic strategies.
PRIVATE FOUNDATION SERVICES
Often, Private Foundations are created because the founding donor seeks to fulfill a highly specific philanthropic mission. A foundation provides high levels of control over the terms of giving, investment objectives, and tax structuring.
When a Private Foundation is the most appropriate avenue, we are an effective strategic partner. A team of top-level specialists in foundation operations, grant administration, and accounting will support your foundation. Our team can look at the big picture to help you navigate complex giving, philanthropic strategy, and operational issues. Our highly customizable and personalized approach enables you to create and operate the foundation of your dreams with the assistance of experienced professionals whose knowledge of the Houston community is always available to you.
If you want to retain your existing team of advisors, our staff will work closely with them to ensure that your grant-making strategy and philanthropic platform remain consistent. We can also train new members of your Board and staff and help bring on the next generation of foundation leadership.

Our expertise makes us your nexus for local opportunities in the Houston nonprofit sector and strengthens connections between you and your peers in the giving community.
Some of the benefits of Private Foundation Services with GHCF include:

- Back-office foundation operations and grant administration
- Monitoring of material changes to the IRS code and possible implications to your Foundation
- Access to the talent and expertise of our Philanthropic Services team
- Clarification of your giving goals and measurement of the impact and benefit your giving creates
- Freeing up your time to focus on what is most significant to you
DONOR
ADVISER
FUND
As the fastest growing philanthropic platform in the U.S., Donor Advised Funds are a simple yet highly effective and streamlined giving tool.
“Although I had set up a Private Foundation prior to the founding of GHCF…I have found myself using my Donor Advised Fund at GHCF more and more as it is less restrictive than a Private Foundation. There is a real ease in the actual donating process and they have reached out to my kids in helping them understand philanthropy in a way that a parent can’t. I have great respect for the Board and the governance structures in place and know that a core value is their rigorous following of donor intent.”

– David Weekley
You can contribute as much and as often as you like, and you can distribute grants in the time-frame of your choosing – a feature unique to Donor Advised Funds. Because of their structure, Donor Advised Funds allow you to take a tax deduction at the time of your donation, without having to immediately decide where to direct your donations. Our Philanthropic Advisors and administrative staff give you the same support and expertise as if you were running a Private Foundation, while removing many details that consume your time and energy.
Our secure and confidential DonorXpress online portal gives you the freedom to conduct your grant making anytime, from anywhere. You recommend the organizations you want to support, we perform due diligence, disburse the grant funds, and handle all the reporting. Creating a Donor Advised Fund can be done in less than a day. Converting from a Private Foundation to a Donor Advised Fund is a simple process we can walk you and your team of advisors through.

This type of fund has maximum flexibility and few reporting requirements.
Whether you want to focus specifically on grant making, hand the reins to the next generation, spend down funds, or focus on other aspects of running a foundation, there might be a time when the most practical and beneficial course is to create or convert to a Donor Advised Fund.

If you are converting from a Private Foundation, you can keep the name and structure of the foundation, bring along the next generation of leaders, work with your current team of advisors, and retain and ensure control over the direction of your giving.
Some of the advantages of a Donor Advised Fund include:

- Simpler management and staffing
- Freeing up time to focus on other aspects of your philanthropy
- Access to a Donor Peer Network
- Increased confidentiality and the option to give anonymously
- No annual pay-out requirement
- Immediate tax deduction
- Maximum deductions allowed by law
- The experience of an organization that works with more than 3,000 nonprofits annually
- Funds over $500,000 have the ability to work with a third-party investment manager
KEY QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER
Do you plan to make grants to individuals?

Do you want to establish and control your own entity?

How much control do you want over your investments?

Will you be donating assets other than cash or publicly traded securities?

Do you want to create an employment opportunity (with limited income) for a family member through your charitable entity?

Is confidentiality or anonymity important to you?
There are meaningful differences between a Private Foundation and a Donor Advised Fund.

We can consult with you and your advisors to help you choose the best vehicle based on your goals, situation, and the nature of the assets you are dedicating to philanthropy.
“My Donor Advised Fund at GHCF is more than a legal structure – GHCF is my philanthropic partner. From initial set-up to grant recommendations, the processes at GHCF are simple, which allows me to focus on strategy and impact, not administration. À la carte support at GHCF is available to assist me or my family office when we need it. GHCF’s talented team has helped to develop and guide my philanthropic strategy by providing education, research, and resources on various issues. I have also found value in GHCF’s flexibility and offering of custom solutions. For example, GHCF allows my trusted financial advisor to manage the DAF investment portfolio. Most of all, I appreciate GHCF’s willingness to explore innovative ways to help me achieve meaningful impact.”

– Molly Gochman
WHO WE ARE
We are building an organization unlike any you will find in personal and corporate giving. To do that, we have assembled an outstanding team whose experience and skills allow for them to find creative solutions for your charitable giving.
STEVE MAISLIN
President

As President of the Greater Houston Community Foundation, Steve Maislin’s responsibilities include strategic and operational oversight of this public charitable foundation, as well as working with many of Houston’s most philanthropic families and businesses to achieve their philanthropic goals. Steve has managed GHCF for 12 years and has substantial experience focused on charitable giving strategies and working with privately held wealth. Prior to his role with GHCF, Steve worked for 18 years in wealth transfer and financial planning from wealth advisory positions with the Houston offices of KPMG and Fidelity Investments to local firms Comiskey Kaufman, Inc. and The Maislin Company. Steve speaks regularly to local and national audiences on subjects involving philanthropic tax and impact planning. A graduate of St. John’s School, the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania (B.S. in Economics), and The University of Texas School of Law, Steve was born and raised in Houston and lives in the area with his wife and four children.
RENÉE WIZIG-BARRIOS  
Senior Vice President & Chief Philanthropy Officer

Renée Wizig-Barrios is a summa cum laude graduate of Washington University in St. Louis. She joined the GHCF team in 2010, as the organization’s first Chief Philanthropy Officer to help implement the Strategic Vision to become a center for philanthropy. She has led the effort to expand GHCF philanthropic services to private foundations and major donors. She is part of the Senior Management Team at GHCF and is involved with strategy and business development. She has 20 years experience in the nonprofit sector, starting with service in the U.S. Peace Corps as a Community Health Volunteer in Nicaragua. She served as Lead Organizer (CEO) of The Metropolitan Organization, a local interfaith organization dedicated to developing leadership and civic participation. Renée is part of the 21/64 Trainers Network, a leading nonprofit consultancy which specializes in next generation and multi-generational strategic philanthropy. In 2009, she received the Cornerstone Award for Outstanding Jewish Leaders in the Nonprofit Sector by Jewish Funds for Justice. Renée has been active in giving and community service since she was in middle school and believes personally in the power of philanthropy to transform lives and enrich our city. She is a native Houstonian who lives in the area with her husband and two children.
REBECCA HOVE
Director of Strategic Philanthropy

Rebecca is a graduate of Duke University. She holds a double B.A. in Sociology and Spanish, and a certificate in Markets and Management. Rebecca brings 15 years experience in philanthropic strategy and implementation, organizational development, business development, relationship management, and global and community impact. Formerly, Rebecca was Partner and Chief Operating Officer at Bridgeway Foundation/Bridgeway Capital Management; prior to that she was Vice President, Client Services for Excellence in Giving. Her nonprofit industry experience is also strengthened by six years spent in various business operations roles with a multinational NGO, Young Life. As Director of Strategic Philanthropy, Rebecca is responsible for business development and consulting with families, private foundations, and corporations. She is an active outdoor enthusiast, philanthropic speaker and advocate, and member of various philanthropic organizations.
Jennifer is a graduate of Duke University and the University of Pennsylvania. She holds a Master’s degree in Oral History and brings to GHCF 20 years experience working in both the nonprofit and for-profit sectors. Jennifer was the founding president of the Twelve Hills Nature Center in the inner city of Dallas and was also the managing partner of New Living, Healthy Green Building and Home, a triple bottom line company and the first Certified B-Corporation in Houston. She has experience working as an executive director and director of development of a large nonprofit that worked with over 5,000 volunteers annually. She has a proven track record in strategic planning, program development and evaluation, and in building collaboration among nonprofits and businesses. As the Donor Engagement Director at GHCF, she is responsible for cultivating the Next Gen donors, and developing practices, resources, and programs which support GHCF donors’ philanthropic goals. Jennifer is also part of the 21/64 Trainers Network and is engaged with donors around multigenerational giving. She is a native Houstonian and she and her husband love raising their three children in such a vibrant and engaging city.
SRUTI BASU
Foundation Services Manager

Sruti received dual bachelor’s degrees in Sociology and Women’s Studies from Case Western Reserve University. She also holds Masters Degrees in Public Administration and Social Science Administration from City University of New York, Baruch College, and Case Western Reserve University, respectively. Her previous professional experiences have been in philanthropy at The Cleveland Foundation and various other nonprofits focused on community empowerment.

Due to her strong interest in community and youth development, Sruti has also volunteered for Neighborhood Connections and Big Brothers Big Sisters, both in Cleveland, Ohio. As Foundation Services Manager for GHCF, she is responsible for providing high-quality back-office administration and grant-management services for the Private Foundation client portfolio. Sruti enjoys traveling and spending time with friends and family.