

# Your legacy will save lives for years to come by supporting the **Bitter Root Humane Association**



*The mission of the Bitter Root Humane Association is to provide caring, compassionate shelter and enrichment for homeless companion animals, find loving homes, reunite pets and owners, promote population control and advocate for all animals. We are proud to say, we have no time limits to finding the perfect home for our "guests."*

## **Serving the community since 1972**

The Bitter Root Humane Association (BRHA) is a private, non-profit organization founded in 1972, to address the homeless animal issues in Ravalli County. The organization had several locations and then in 1984, Countess Margarite Bessenyey, the granddaughter of Marcus Daly, gave the BRHA land on Fairgrounds Road with a ninety-nine year lease. Six years later, in 1990, the Bessenyey Estate deeded the land to the organization and this where our shelter is today.

BRHA is the only open admission shelter in Ravalli County and accepts all animals in need. There are no time or space limits for adoptable animals. BRHA offers shelter, safety, food, medical care and love to all animals that come through our doors. BRHA provides a place for people to surrender their pet when they can no longer care for them, shelters homeless strays, offers reuniting services to owners of lost pets and matches the best forever homes possible for those who call BRHA home.

The Bitter Root Humane Association has served the community since 1972. We are funded with no reoccurring taxpayer dollars and depend solely on private donations. With your Planned Giving support, BRHA will be able to continue to serve our community and all the animals in need for years to come!

## Cash

# Planned Giving Ensures your Legacy!

*Thank you for considering a donation to the Bitter Root Humane Association. There are many ways to “give”, checking with your financial advisor will help you determine which is best for you!*

## HOW CAN I HELP?

free to an IRA from which a charitable distribution can be made. A gift of cash is the most common and often the most convenient outright gift. If you itemize on your federal income tax return you may deduct up to 100% of your cash gift from your adjusted gross income (2020). If the full value of your cash donation cannot be deducted in the year of your gift, you have up to 5 additional years to recoup your ‘investment’ in the Bitter Root Humane Association.

### Matching Gifts

Many companies offer matching gift programs to encourage employees to contribute to chari-

table organizations. Most of these programs match contributions dollar for dollar, and some will match salary to volunteer hours!

### Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds

One of the most underutilized ways to make a gift is through appreciated securities - those that have grown in value since purchase or inheritance. When you gift appreciated stock that you acquired many years ago, you not only qualify for a charitable income tax deduction but also avoid capital gain tax on the growth in value. Transferring securities is simple, and with the extra tax savings you may be able to make a larger gift than you initially thought.

### Charitable IRA Rollover

If you are 70 1/2 or older, you may transfer up to \$100,000 each year directly to the BRHA from your IRA. Such transfers can even satisfy your required minimum distribution and lower your taxable income. Your 401K, 403(b) or other retirement account may be converted tax free to an IRA from which a charitable distribution may be made.

### Individual Retirement Accounts

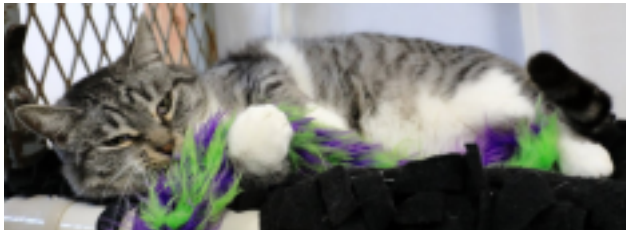
**(IRAs) and retirement plans** By making BRHA the beneficiary of all or part of your IRA plan, you can avoid the taxes that may diminish your account by up to 60 percent when given to family or friends.

**Bank or Brokerage Accounts** You may designate all or a portion of your account to the BRHA with a “Pay on Death” or “Transfer on Death” beneficiary designation.

### Life Insurance Policy

You may have established a life insurance policy to protect your family’s income if something happens to the primary wage earner. However, if the reasons for needing the insurance have ended, you now have a significant asset that may be used as a charitable donation while providing you with a tax savings. The gift is complete and the charitable deduction is earned, when the BRHA is made the owner

and irrevocable beneficiary of the policy.



### **Real Estate**

Do you have a second home or rental property that you no longer wish to maintain or insure? Is your vacation home no longer being used by family and friends? These properties may be highly appreciated and could result in costly taxes if sold outright. However, by donating your real estate, you could use the property to fulfill your charitable intentions while minimizing or even eliminating capital gain taxes! A gift of your real estate can make a transformative difference in funding the work of the BRHA for years to come.

### **Contribute a personal home, vacation property or farm while maintaining the right to use it**

You may already be planning to leave your home or vacation property to the BRHA through your will or trust. While your gift may help avoid estate taxes, you can truly benefit by gifting your home now and living in it for the rest of your life. You receive immediate income tax savings while eliminating probate on the asset. You will remain responsible for maintenance, tax, insurance and general upkeep. And you will have the satisfaction of making a real contribution during your lifetime

and knowing you significantly helped all the animals of our community.

### **Personal Property**

Assets like artwork, a coin collection, car, boat, airplane or antiques that you no longer want are valuable gifts to the BRHA. Taxes on the sale of these appreciated items are often even higher than taxes on stocks and real estate. By donating these items to the BRHA instead of selling them, you avoid capital gain tax and qualify for a charitable tax deduction, thereby receiving a double bonus of tax savings and leaving a legacy to the Bitterroot community.

### **Gift by Will or Living Trust**

Do you wish to help sustain the future of the Bitter Root Humane Association while maintaining control over your assets in case they are needed during your lifetime? Giving to BRHA through your will or living trust can help you accomplish your goal. Often referred to as a “bequest”, this gift may allow you to give much more through your estate or trust than during your lifetime. Commitments like these are simple provisions on your will or trust and are easy to change or even revoke, particularly with a codicil to a will.

### **Charitable Remainder Trust**

When you donate assets like cash, securities and/or real estate to a CRT, you receive a stream of income which can last for your lifetime or a set term of up to 20 years. Your income amount may be much greater than what the transferred assets currently yield. You may select fixed-lifetime income or income which may increase over time to offset inflation.

### **Immediate Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA)**

Establishing a CGA today will pay you a fixed dollar amount for the rest of your life, beginning immediately. You establish a CGA with a transfer of cash, appreciated securities or real estate to the BRHA. In return, the BRHA pays you an annuity, the amount of which is determined by your age (and the age of one other





### **Deferred Charitable Gift Annuity**

What if you're continuing to save for retirement? With a DCGA, you can augment your future income by postponing the payment start date. The older the annuitant(s) when the payments start, the larger the payments will be.

### **Flexible Deferred Gift Annuity**

A Flexible Deferred Gift Annuity means that the donor does not have to choose the payment starting date at the time of the contribution. The annuitant may choose the payment starting date in the future based on his/her retirement date or other considerations. As with the deferred charitable gift annuity, the older the annuitant(s) when the payments start, the larger the payments will be.



### **What is the Montana Endowment Tax Credit?**

Formally known as the Montana Charitable Endowment Tax Credit, this opportunity offers you a tax credit of 40% of a qualifying planned gift's federal charitable deduction, up to a maximum of \$10,000, per year, per individual. It also allows a tax credit of 20% of a gift's federal charitable deduction for a direct gift by a qualified business up to a maximum of \$10,000 per year.

## **How Your Gift Is Used Is Up To You!**

You can trust that your donation to the Bitter Root Humane Association will be used solely to provide care to the animals that come through our doors needing safety, shelter, food, medical care and love. You can direct your gift specifically to general operations, a specific service or program, mortgage debt or our endowment fund.

For more information, please contact your financial advisor, attorney or BRHA at:  
[\*\*brhboardofdirectors@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:brhboardofdirectors@gmail.com)