
Which Component Fund is Right For You?



At the Community Foundation, our staff routinely design highly customized charitable funds for our donors. Each fund reflects the philanthropic goals of its donor and their preferred balance between their ongoing involvement in grantmaking decisions and the level of discretion that they afford the Foundation. Many of the fund types described below are often blended within a single fund to reflect a donor's wishes, with the exception of donor-advised funds and agency funds remaining separate.

Unrestricted Funds allow the Community Foundation to use its discretion to provide grants to nonprofit organizations and charitable programs addressing the most pressing community needs in Staunton, Waynesboro, and the counties of Augusta, Highland and Nelson.

Field of Interest Funds are directed as grants within the area(s) of interest of the donor at the Foundation's discretion. This form of charitable fund is particularly effective for charitable endowments that will exist in perpetuity.

Designated Funds are created when donors have a specific nonprofit organization or (s) that the Community Foundation is to support. Designated Funds are particularly appropriate for a donor who wishes to extend their support long after their own lifetime.

Donor-Advised Funds are ideal for donors who have a range of charitable interests and wish to actively respond to the shifting needs of the community

through their routine advisement of their fund's investments.

Scholarship Funds support individuals who aspire to better lives through education. Donors select the scholarship criteria that allows the Community Foundation to identify the best and most deserving recipients.

Award Funds: One of the first, and arguably one of the best-known funds established at our Community Foundation is the Dawbarn Education Awards, which recognizes individuals in our community who inspire, encourage, and foster learning in the public schools. Donors interested in celebrating the contributions of exceptional individuals in our community may consider creating an Award Fund.

Agency Funds are created by nonprofit organizations who contribute assets to the Community Foundation for our management. Their Agency Fund can be a source of annual income for their general operations or a reserve fund for their future use.