



Foundation Fundamentals

► by *Milford Jenkins, Angus Foundation*

The joy in giving

Every Christmas back home, our school bus driver lovingly gave each boy and girl a brown paper bag filled with holiday treats. A delicious shiny red apple; an orange; a red-and-white peppermint candy cane; and plastic-wrapped caramel, butterscotch, cinnamon, white taffy and marshmallow peanut candies were always featured. Rounding out the bag's offering of holiday goodies, and what my sweet tooth remembers best, were those incredibly delicious chocolate peanut clusters.

More memorable though, with the gift of each bag of treats handed out, were the big smiles of gratitude in return from the youngsters to the bus driver. A small gift, yet the sparkle in their eyes and radiant smiles indicated otherwise.

Setting the example

Parking the bus at his family's registered-Angus farm, the bus driver rushed to finish his chores and feeding that evening so he could tell his wife over dinner about the smiles of joy they had brought to the faces of those young boys and girls through their Christmas gifts.

You, too, just like the bus driver and his wife, can bring smiles of joy to the faces of others through your giving this holiday season.

During the weeks ahead leading to Dec. 31, your mailboxes and that of my own family will be deluged with end-of-year appeals from every charity imaginable seeking your charitable support.

It's my hope, as well as my encouragement to you, that you will selflessly give of your financial resources to those causes dear to your heart, those most meaningful to you and your family's lives. Regardless the size of the gift, it's the right thing to do, and I promise you, the sense of joy and fun you'll experience from your giving will be treasured far more than the treasure itself you gave away.

Planning the details

Of course, when considering more complex larger gifts requiring supporting documents, such as a formal endowment agreement between the donor and the charitable organization, donors will want to

contact the charity's officials well in advance of the gift being made to discuss those important details. Oftentimes, assistance and counsel from a donor's legal counsel, certified public tax accountant, financial advisor or other professionals will be needed during the process.

Additionally, depending on the type of gift, such as publicly traded securities (stock), additional communications with the donor's financial institution or stock broker will be required to provide the information needed to make an electronic transfer of stock to the charity the donor is wishing to support.

Lastly, being familiar and knowledgeable concerning the charitable organization's gift acceptance policies and procedures, management and administrative fees, and any other related guidelines applicable to your gift can help prevent any misunderstandings from later occurring between the donor and charity. Most charities place this information on their websites and their staff will be glad to visit with you about them.

In any event, whether it's giving of our time, talents or treasure, no gift is too small. For within each gift lies the power to bring a smile to a child's face, the power to make a difference in the life of another, and the power to make someone else's tomorrow better than today.

A giving spirit

Back to the bus driver with 67 years in the Angus business, now 33 years full-time: Even though it's been nearly 35 years since my father last drove the school bus, my parents are still lovingly helping to fill brown paper bags each year with holiday treats to bring smiles to the faces of children (and adults of all ages!) at our small rural church's beautiful Christmas Eve services.

Indeed, let us never forget, it's more about giving to others than it is about receiving.

In the spirit of the season

Angus friends and supporters, may God bless you and your family with a joyous holiday season, and best wishes to you from the Angus Foundation for your Angus herd's continued success and prosperity in 2016!

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