Giving Goals

During his term as ACOG President from 2011-2012, James N. Martin, Jr., MD had two specific goals he set out to accomplish in keeping with the mission of the College to advance women’s health. He and his wife, Gloria, have carried on those goals with their giving.

“One of my presidential initiatives was to form a task force to review the scientific evidence on which our ACOG guidelines are based for the treatment of patients with pre-eclampsia and hypertensive disorders, an area I’ve spent my medical career focusing on,” Martin said. “The other initiative was to advance the College into becoming more of a global operation. To that end, we created the Global Operations Advisory Group (GOAG) to advise ACOG’s Executive Board.”

To achieve the second goal, Martin knew he needed someone who could spearhead GOAG’s activities. He turned to a colleague he respected and felt could make an immediate and long-term impact on GOAG—Herbert Peterson, MD of Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

“No one can touch Bert’s credentials; he has all the qualities to undertake a global campaign. He is an exemplary leader known as a premiere OB-GYN in the medical community and recognized as a diplomat with international health organizations,” Martin said.

Career focus

Martin’s career was spent as a professor of obstetrics and gynecology and the director of...
To give away money is an easy matter and in anyone’s power, but to decide to whom to give it, how much to give, when to give, and to give for the right motive and in the right way, is neither in everyone’s power nor an easy matter. Hence, it is that such excellence is rare, praiseworthy, and noble.”

—Aristotle

A Time for Planning

The end of the year is often a good time to review and update your financial plans, considering any changes that may have occurred in your life.

How do your plans compare?

Knowing how estate planning can help you reach your personal and financial goals can make it easier to update your plans. The following True/False quiz may help you determine if your estate plans meet your current needs and wishes. If you are uncertain about a statement, answer False.

True False

T  F  I have a will or living trust.

T  F  I have not moved to another state since last reviewing my will and other plans.

T  F  My marital status has not changed since my last review.

T  F  The makeup of my family is the same.

T  F  The value of my assets is the same since I last reviewed my plans.

T  F  I have included all the people and organizations important to me in my plans.

If you answered False to any of the statements above, you may want to revisit your estate plans and make sure they reflect your current and future needs.

Balancing your hopes and goals for the future with realistic plans for today can be very satisfying. We are always happy to help in any way we can, confidentially and with no obligation. Please return the enclosed card or contact Kathleen Kenny at 202-863-2479.
Including Gifts to ACOG in Your Will or Trust

In addition to distributing your assets to loved ones, an effective will and estate plan can also serve as a creative vehicle through which to make meaningful gifts to ACOG.

Your gifts can take the form of:

- A specific dollar amount
- A percentage of your estate
- The residue—what is left after first providing for loved ones
- A blended gift—a specific amount plus a percentage or all of the residue

Gifts can also be made with a life insurance policy no longer needed for its original purpose or excess retirement funds that might be heavily taxed if left to heirs.

If you already have a will or trust, you may add a charitable bequest to it through a codicil or amendment.

Considering a bequest?

Here is some suggested wording to take to your attorney:

“After fulfilling all other specific provisions, I give, devise and bequeath ____% of the remainder [or $_____] of my estate to the ACOG Foundation, a charitable corporation [Tax ID #362217981] currently having offices at 409 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20024.”

Tax-Free Giving

If you are aged 70½ or older, you can make a gift from your traditional or Roth IRA directly to the College in a total amount of up to $100,000 per year, free from federal income taxation. The income tax laws of most states allow tax-free treatment as well. This is a wonderful way to support the College and make the most of your charitable giving.
Donor Advised Funds—Another Way to Give

Many of the College’s supporters make their gifts from a Donor Advised Fund (DAF). DAFs are a convenient way to make your gifts in support of the College at the time you choose, often with expert advice and assistance. Because these funds are similar in concept to private family foundations, they are often a more cost-effective alternative with many of the tax advantages of a foundation.

If you have a DAF, and use it to make your gifts to the College, have you considered what will happen to the funds in the future when you are no longer there to make decisions about the disposition of funds? Designating ACOG to receive a distribution from a terminating DAF or naming the College as a beneficiary is a wonderful way to make a “bequest” without affecting other estate plans.

Taking Stock and Giving It

Each year, Americans give billions of dollars of gifts other than cash to charity. Gifts of appreciated stock and other publicly traded securities held longer than one year lead the way. This should be no surprise given the increased value of these investments over the past few years. When making a gift of stock, you can deduct its full value, and you avoid paying capital gains tax. These gifts are easy to complete and are usually made directly from your brokerage account by means of an electronic transfer. Contact Kathleen Kenny for more information.

MORE INFORMATION

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