Our Family Legacy Charter

A guide for connecting our wealth, values, and goals across generations

Our wealth can support more than individual financial goals. It can help create opportunities, support the people and causes that matter to us, and carry important values forward from one generation to the next.

Because a family legacy may reflect the wishes of an individual, a couple, or a family, this charter uses "we" and "our" as a shared voice throughout.

Our Family Legacy Charter gives us an opportunity to define what matters most, what we hope our wealth will help accomplish, and the principles we want to guide financial decisions across generations.

- **Family Name:**
- **Date:**
- **Family members participating:**

A Message to Our Family – Today and for Generations to Come

- **If there is one message we hope future generations carry carry with them, it is:**

Our Why

Before focusing on specific financial decisions, we can consider the larger purpose we want our wealth to serve.

- **What we want our family's wealth to make possible:**

- **What money and wealth mean to our family— beyond their financial value:**

- **What we hope future generations understand about the wealth they may receive:**

Values We Want to Carry Forward

Our financial decisions can reflect more than dollars and cents. They can also reflect what we believe is important.

- **The values that matter most:**

- **What those values may look like in practice:**

- **The qualities we hope future generations demonstrate as they take on greater financial responsibility:**

Giving and Impact

Our wealth can also reflect the difference we hope to make beyond our family.

- **The causes, organizations, or communities that matter most to us:**

- **The difference we hope our family's giving will make:**

Our Goals

Our values can provide direction, while our goals help put them into action.

> Our most important financial goals:

1.

2.

3.

> Why these goals matter to us:

How We Make Important Decisions

Clear expectations can help in navigating financial decisions, unexpected circumstances, and differences of opinion.

> Who should be involved in important family financial conversations:

> Ways we want important family financial decisions to be made:

How we want to approach disagreements:

Preparing Future Generations

Passing along financial resources is only one part of our legacy. We can also pass along knowledge, experience, perspective, and expectations.

When we believe younger family members should begin participating in family financial conversations:

How we can help prepare future generations for greater financial responsibility:

The financial lessons we most want upcoming generations to learn:

What we hope future generations will do with the opportunities they receive:

- **How we want to approach disagreements:**

Wealth Transfer and Succession

How wealth is passed along can be just as important as what is passed along. This section captures the intentions and principles we want future generations to understand.

- **What we want our family to understand about how and why wealth may be transferred:**

- **What we want them to know about the reasons behind those decisions:**

- **What we hope inherited or gifted assets will help future generations accomplish:**

Keeping the Conversation Going

Our family will change. Our financial circumstances may change. Our priorities may change, too.

Revisiting these conversations can help us stay aligned as new generations become involved and new decisions arise.

> How often should we revisit our family goals, values, and guiding principles?

> The life events or financial changes that should prompt us to revisit them:

From Conversation to Planning

The priorities identified can provide a starting point for broader conversations about our financial future. We can share them with our financial professional and, when appropriate, our estate planning attorney and tax professional.

Together, we can consider how our financial and estate strategies align with the values, priorities, and goals that matter to our family.

Important information
This material is provided for educational purposes only and is not intended to provide legal, tax, accounting, or investment advice. A Legacy Charter is not a legally binding document and does not replace a will, trust, estate plan, beneficiary designation, or other legal document. Consult the appropriate legal, tax, and financial professionals regarding individual circumstances.

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