

HCCF is Your Next Door Neighbor

Well, it's 2018 and the beginning of a fresh new year; however, it's quiet in my office. You see, in the world of philanthropy, December is often referred to as the most wonderful time of the year. While the holidays are the most obvious reason for the season, charitable organizations celebrate the thoughtful giving that many caring people do at year-end so for many nonprofits. There is a frenzy of activity.

One such couple walked in my office last month. "Dick and Jane" had been thinking for several years about giving through the Hancock County Community Foundation, and 2018 made the most financial sense for them. While tax implications were top of mind, it was quickly evident that their motivation was based on their desire to make a difference, but why work with HCCF?

- 1) Endowment. This couple wants to perpetuate their giving so that the community will benefit for generations to come. Endowment is the cornerstone of HCCF's work. We're in the business of "forever", and as such, pride ourselves on responsible stewardship. We multiply the impact of gift dollars by pooling them with those of other donors. Dick and Jane's gift will experience maximum earning impact and minimum fees by being invested with \$36 million other charitable dollars; however, through fund accounting, Dick and Jane will receive specific information about their fund's activity.
- 2) Local Expertise. Dick and Jane seek the guidance of HCCF in how they might be most impactful with their giving. HCCF is a local organization with deep roots in the community. We understand the community's issues and needs and work with area organizations to coordinate resources in order to create positive change. We lend that expertise to donors who seek advice and philanthropic direction.
- 3) Flexibility. HCCF offers the flexibility for donors to give locally and nationally. Income generated from endowments is granted to donors' favorite charitable organizations. HCCF ensures nonprofits qualify for charitable grants through the execution of due diligence. All grantmaking aligns with IRS regulations.
- 4) Trustworthy. HCCF has met the highest standards of excellence through a national certification process. The National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations Accreditation Program certifies U.S. community foundations that meet and exceed federal and state law requirements in practice and by policy. The accreditation process is rigorous, and undertaking it demonstrates a community foundation's commitment to accountability and excellence to its donors, its community, policymakers, and the public.

What a privilege it is to connect people like Dick and Jane to the tools they need to meet their charitable objectives...in person. HCCF is your next door neighbor. We're easy to find and quick to serve with effective tools and local expertise.