

Discover your mission

Create a personal mission statement to guide your giving



1 Reflect on what inspires you

2 Determine where you will focus

3 Discover your mission

A giving mission statement helps you focus your giving on what matters most to you. This worksheet walks you through the steps to create your giving mission statement, which will reflect your personal values and articulate your goals.

Want to create a joint or family mission statement? Complete the first two steps of the worksheet separately, and then discuss your answers together to develop a shared purpose in giving.

1. What inspires you to give?

Your values, experiences, and beliefs are what inform your giving. Before you create your statement, reflect on what inspires you to give.

What are some formative experiences in your life? How did they shape you?

Who are the people who have been strong influences on you? What have they taught you?

When you think about our world and society, what inspires or upsets you?

What are some of your core values or principles?

What motivates you to give?



2. Where will you focus?

Your mission statement describes what you want to accomplish with your giving. Consider the following questions and how they will inform your mission.

What issues do you want to affect? Why? How?

What population do you want to focus on?

What is your geographic scope?

What is your vision or long-term goal for your giving?

3. Write your mission statement.

Drawing upon the values, interests, and motivations you described above, write a one-to-three sentence mission statement for your giving.

Sample mission statements:

To honor my mother's work as a Pre-K teacher, I will give to early childhood education programs in my state so all children arrive at kindergarten ready to learn.

I will help veterans successfully transition out of the military by funding programs that provide job support services.

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