The Guardian

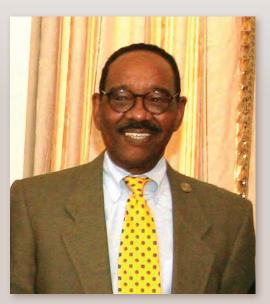
ESTATE AND GIFT PLANNING IDEAS • FALL 2015

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William Price lived a life of service to children.



# A Legacy of Hope for Children

For nearly 30 years, William Price taught 8th-grade science at various public schools in Washington, DC. When students' parents had not packed lunch, Mr. Price would find a way to make sure they ate. If a student didn't have a rain coat and was soaking wet, Mr. Price would find a way to get them dry clothes. "I knew that if you had a healthy child who was supported by the community, he or she would have a halfway decent chance of being successful in life," he once said.

Mr. Price retired in 2002. As he sorted through his papers and photos, he realized that every job he had held supported young people in some way. So, Mr. Price decided to name Children's National in his will to help ensure the overall health and wellbeing of children beyond his lifetime. He passed away in 2009, and his generosity continues to benefit children throughout the community.

Thoughtful gifts like Mr. Price's are vital, allowing us to provide essential services not typically covered by insurance. For example, our Child Life Specialists are specially trained and certified to help patients and families cope with illness and hospitalization. They provide emotional support and therapeutic play experiences to minimize stress and anxiety. Similarly, our Creative and Therapeutic Arts Services help patients have a better hospital experience through music, art, and pet therapies.

In addition, donations like Mr. Price's allow us to provide care for children who live in underserved neighborhoods and areas that have no healthcare providers, or whose families are unable to pay for their care. Our mobile health vans deliver care directly to these communities.

Through his work as a teacher and through his estate gift, William Price left a legacy of hope for children—those he encountered during his lifetime and those he will never meet.

# **Flexible Gifts**

At the heart of philanthropy is the desire to give back and contribute in a way that makes a difference in the lives of others. There are many ways to give back — sometimes through gifts of time and service, and other times through gifts of cash or property.

Through flexible gifts you can show your support for Children's National while retaining the ability to address future financial options. Safe and purposeful, flexible gifts provide simple but effective ways to demonstrate your philanthropic commitment.

#### Gifts through a Will: No Risks, No Regrets

Few gifts are as simple to arrange as a gift made through your will. It is "risk-free" because you retain full use of your assets throughout your lifetime. You can change your will at any time to meet changing conditions or goals.

The key, of course, is an up-to-date will. If you do not have a will, we encourage you to see your attorney to put your will in place. It is one way to protect loved ones and provide for the charities you care about. If you have a will but want to revise it to include Children's National, your attorney can update your will with a simple codicil, without writing a new will.

You have choices when deciding to make a gift through your will. It can be:

- a fixed amount of money or a designated property;
- the residuary or a portion of your estate.



There's more to know about making a gift through your will. Just contact us for more information.

### Gifts through Life Insurance

You may have a life insurance policy that you no longer need. Perhaps it was purchased to pay off a mortgage or set up a college fund, and now the mortgage is paid and the kids are grown. You can name Children's National as the beneficiary of that policy. You'll be assured that the policy proceeds are used in the way you would prefer. Contact your insurance agent to request a form to change the beneficiary.

## Gifts through a Retirement Plan

You may have more than one retirement plan, perhaps including a traditional IRA or 401(k) plan. If your financial goals include providing for loved ones and Children's National, consider naming us as a beneficiary of one of these tax-deferred accounts while leaving other assets to family members.

**Example**: Walter is planning his will. His assets include a 401(k) account and a stock portfolio. His attorney suggests he leave the stock portfolio to his daughter, Heather, and the 401(k) account to Children's National. Here is why.

Heather inherits the stock portfolio with a new cost basis, which will result in less taxes if she sells the stocks.

If Heather receives the 401(k), she will need to pay income tax on each distribution. As a qualified charitable organization, Children's National receives the 401(k) in full, with no income tax due.

## Gifts through Savings and Checking Accounts

One more option for making a flexible gift is to set up a Payable on Death (POD) designation for your savings and checking accounts. Your bank can provide the proper form, and it's easy to do.



With a POD designation, funds in the account are payable directly to the person and/or charitable organization that you name. You have the right to change the designation at any time. A POD designation is simple and risk-free. (Note: Be sure to check the law in your state and consult an attorney when planning your estate).

Your wishes through a beneficiary designation, (life insurance, retirement plan, bank account) take precedence over your will. And, you may leave a specific dollar amount or a percentage of the value of the assets to a loved one and to Children's National.

#### **Planning Tip**

# Another way to use life insurance to make a donation

If you have a paid-up permanent life insurance policy that you no longer need, you can make a significant gift by making Children's National the owner of the policy. It's even possible to give a policy for which you are still making payments and receive a charitable deduction, as well as future deductions for premium contributions. Contact your insurance company and ask for the form used to transfer policy ownership.

# was wrong. They were eventually diagnosed with cerebral palsy, a group of permanent

with cerebral palsy, a group of permanent movement disorders that often result in poor coordination, stiff and weak muscles, trouble swallowing or speaking, tremors, and other challenging symptoms. The twins had trouble controlling their arms and legs due to stiffness.

**Tess and Alexander** 

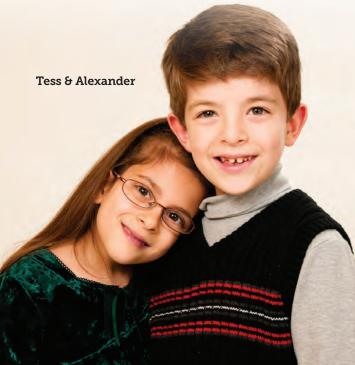
When Danica and George Theodorakos first had their twins, Tess and Alexander, all seemed fine. But by the time the twins were a year old, it was apparent that something

"When we found Children's National, it was a great relief," recalled George. "We felt we were in really good hands."

Dr. Sally Evans, who specializes in physical rehabilitation medicine at Children's National, was determined to help the Theodorakos family find the best path forward. She introduced an innovative treatment for children with cerebral palsy: injections of Botox. Although this therapy was something Danica and George had never heard of, they were willing to give it a try. Their trust in Children's National paid off—today, the twins are thriving.

"Every time we go into Children's National for a routine checkup, we end up with whole new treatments, new devices to use, that really give me the reassurance that we're on top of it, we're attacking it, and making as much progress as we possibly can," said George.

See Tess and Alexander today by viewing a brief video at: www.childrensnational.org/ testimonials.



Is Children's National already in your will or other estate plan but you haven't told us? If so, please let us know now so we may welcome you to



The Guardian Society recognizes the very special people who have included Children's National in their will and other estate gifts. Their forethought and generosity will help to ensure world-class care, advocacy, research, and education at Children's National through a lasting legacy. To learn more about making a legacy gift, please visit our website www.childrensnational.org/ planagift or contact me.

Our Tax ID is #52-1640402.



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## Children's National Ranked Among Top Ten Best Children's Hospitals in Nation

Children's National Health System has been named to the prestigious Honor Roll of the **U.S. News & World Report** 2015-16 Best Children's Hospitals, ranking among the top 10 pediatric hospitals in the nation. The Honor Roll features the "best of the best" hospitals for kids in the country. Additionally, Children's National is the only pediatric hospital in the entire region of Maryland, DC, and Virginia to earn Honor Roll designation.

Children's National was ranked in all ten specialties for the fifth year in a row, and among these—Neonatology, Neurology/ Neurosurgery, and Gastroenterology/GI Surgery—were ranked among the top 10 programs in the country. All 10 specialties ranked in the top 25 nationally.

- Cancer
- Cardiology and Heart Surgery
- Diabetes and Endocrinology
- Gastroenterology and GI Surgery
- Neonatology
- Nephrology
- Neurology and Neurosurgery
- Orthopaedics
- Pulmonology
- Urology

In addition to being recognized in these 10 specialty areas, Children's National is a pediatric health system that is dedicated to improving the lives of children through innovative research, primary care, and advocating on behalf of children's needs. Children's National marries cutting-edge research with highquality care within the same facility. It is ranked sixth among pediatric hospitals in receiving National Institutes of Health funding for pediatric research. Children's also is a Magnet<sup>®</sup> designated hospital, recognized for nursing excellence by the American Nurses Credentialing Center.

# Make a Difference For Children

Join our many supporters who have made legacy gifts. You may honor a loved one through your own legacy gift. If we can help you and your financial advisor(s) as you consider your personal and philanthropic goals, please contact us. Be sure to ask for a free brochure, **Flexible Gifts—Easy to Make, Easy to Live With**. Thank you for considering the ways you can make a difference at Children's National.