THE HUNGER PROJECT
BEQUEST POLICY

The allocation and use of bequests and terminated planned gifts is determined by the policies approved by the Board of Directors. Unless otherwise restricted, bequests are used to maintain a healthy cash reserve, for current priorities or near to mid-term objectives. THE HUNGER PROJECT prefers bequests and planned gifts which are unrestricted because they provide the entire organization with the most flexibility and allow it to best determine how to use these gifts.

If an investor wants to restrict a bequest or planned gift to reflect their gratitude for some work they have experienced or have known well, ideally they will first discuss this with THE HUNGER PROJECT’S fundraising staff. The staff will work with the investor to encourage use of the broadest possible language as well as a clause allowing for other uses of their funds in the event of changing future needs.

At times, THE HUNGER PROJECT may feel it necessary to refuse a gift whose restrictions cannot be reconciled to the organization’s long-term program priorities and financial plans. Because THE HUNGER PROJECT wants to have a policy that is clear and transparent we will share it in writing with investors and prospective investors upon request.

I. Determination of Restriction

A. Only the language of a deceased’s will, living trust, or other such documents determine whether a bequest will be considered as restricted to a particular area of work.

B. In order for a gift to be restricted the legacy gift document must have a clause clearly indicating the restriction. In cases of ambiguous language, the Gift Review Committee (comprised of the CEO and CFO or their designees) will consult to determine an allocation. As necessary, they will consult with individuals who knew the investor such as the family, a fundraiser, or other staff. Then the Gift Review Committee can make a determination or refer the decision to the Board.

II. Use of Funds

A. Any unrestricted bequest shall be used for cash reserves, for current priorities or near to mid-term objectives.

B. In the case of restricted bequests, funds will be designated to the area of work indicated in writing and can be used over multiple years. While bequests will primarily support core costs, they can support growth when beneficial to the goals of THE HUNGER PROJECT.