



1. Why do I give?

- To change something
- To help _____
- To participate in _____
- To assist _____
- To ease the guilt of having more/too much
- To "give back" to an organization that has helped me
- Vision for the future
- Passion for certain subjects and issues
- Compassion
- Social recognition and attention
- Knowledge of certain subjects and issues

2. How do I decide how much to give? How do I know what I can afford?

- I set an amount aside at the first of the year
- I see what's left at the end of the year
- My accountant tells me how much I should give
- Feeling
- Research
- Familiarity with issues (e.g. I am a nurse, so I care about health issues)
- Current events/disasters (e.g. Haiti)
- Tithe

3. What is NOT on my list to support financially, and why?

4. Do I have a multi-year plan?

- 2 year
- 5 year
- 10 year
- Lifetime/will/estate planning

5. Do I stick with the same organizations year after year?

- Yes
- No
- Why? _____

6. Do I evaluate the results of my gifts each year?

- Check past results
- Research current developments
- Effectiveness with use of funds
- Didn't get a thank you note?

7. What would terminate my support of an organization, and why?

8. What would sustain my support of an organization?

9. What follow-up activities do I conduct after I have given money to an organization?

10. Community Awareness

- Trends
- Emerging Needs
- Current Crises
- Saturation
- Duplication

11. How much do I know about my community's needs and assets in the following fields?

- Arts
- Education
- Environment
- Health
- Basic Needs

12. How much is reasonable for me to know?

13. Do I give forward or do I give back? Or some of each?

14. What should I know about my giving?

- Amounts, proportion and value

Tax consequences
Value to grantee/ assess needs
My participation in the grant making
Individual contributions/donations
Potential hazards for grantee
Vision of the end goal for the grant
Progress reports from grantee
Participation and assistance to ensure success

15. How many organizations should I fund?

Church, school, and one other, or more?

As many as I can

Only those for which I have an understanding of what they're doing

I just write the check; someone else decides who gets the money

I only fund (circle one or more): basic needs, arts, environment, health, education, other?

16. I sometimes feel guilty for giving to the arts? Should I?

The poor are still hungry

Women and children are still abused, under-educated/housed/employed...

Children are still going without dental care

Haiti is overwhelmed ...!

17. How do I prepare myself to be a responsible patron of the arts (fill in your passion)?

Know what your community has going for it: dance companies, galleries, orchestras, operas, bands, live theatres

Determine the quality of the arts in your area

Observe the needs and assets of the community (city art? more dance? art in public spaces?)

Get a feel for the cost of keeping things moving (e.g. maintenance of art in the park ...?)

18. I only give to equine projects. (Substitute your passion.) What should I know?

Everything about horses?

The number, type and quality of equine projects in your area?

The various costs associated with operating an equine facility for such projects?

The value of equine training, exposure, exercise?

The need for such programs in my area?

Who and how many win when good programs exist? How big is the win?

Can existing programs collaborate?

19. How should I pick the organizations I fund?

Where to look for information: internet, library, local or state foundations

20. What periodicals can assist me in my search for more information?

Stanford Social Innovation Review

Chronical of Philanthropy

21. If I don't have as much money as the Gates Foundation, why should I even try?
Is my influence as important as my money? How?
What do I need to know about philanthropy as practiced today?
How should I go about becoming better informed?

22. Discussion Questions:
Is my giving motivated by fear-based marketing?
Why is it important to be a well informed philanthropist?
What should I know?
What are the most reliable resources for learning more?
How much do I know about my community's needs and assets?
What/who are my local resources for finding out?

23. What important question(s) did we not ask?