Laura Hoffman appointed Staff Assistant

Laura is responsible for assisting both the program and finance departments of FJC. She is the friendly voice you will hear when you call our office and is excited to help you with any requests.

A graduate of Fordham University with a BA in History, Laura has worked and volunteered with many organizations such as: Merchant’s House Museum, New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation and UNICEF.

Contributions

*Contributions of cash to your FJC account sent via U.S. mail (not FedEx, DHL or others) must be postmarked by December 31, 2015 to qualify as a 2015 tax deduction. Deliveries by other means must be received by December 31.

*Contributions of securities and mutual fund shares should be made as soon as possible, and received by FJC by December 31. Please notify us in advance of the transfer so we can promptly credit your fund. Brokers tend to be busy at year-end. DAFs add increased value to stocks held one year or more because you can avoid or reduce capital gains taxes when they are donated.

*Contributions of other assets such as real estate, restricted securities or privately held stock can be made but require long lead times.

Distributions

December 18, 2015 is the deadline for this year’s grant recommendations. If you would like a charity to receive a grant before year-end, we recommend you advise us as early as possible. Of course, having a DAF means you don’t have to wait until the last minute!

Charitable Giving to Increase 4.8 Percent in 2015, Study Predicts

Philanthropy News Digest reports total charitable giving in the United States is expected to increase 4.8 percent on a year-over-year basis in 2015 and 4.9 percent in 2016, according to a report from the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy and consulting firm Marts & Lundy finds.

Based on an analysis of ten key predictors of giving, The Philanthropy Outlook: 2015 & 2016 projects that in both years, contributions from all sources will increase — including individuals and households (up 4.4 percent in 2015 and 4.1 percent in 2016), foundations (up 7.2 percent and 6.7 percent), estates (up 2.7 percent and 6.3 percent), and corporations (up 6.0 percent and 4.8 percent). The study also anticipates that projected above-average growth in the S&P 500 and average to above-average increases in personal income and household and nonprofit net worth will drive increases in total giving that exceed the 3.1 percent average annual growth since the Great Recession.

According to the report, average annual giving is expected to increase by $17.3 billion in the five-year period between 2012 and 2016, compared with an average decline of $6.7 billion between 2007 and 2011. “The results of the Philanthropy Outlook suggest that the nonprofit sector appears to be continuing on the road to recovery,” the report states, while noting that slower-than-expected growth in GDP, the S&P 500, and/or household and nonprofit net worth could affect giving trends over the next two years.

“U.S. Charitable Giving Projected to Grow 4.8 Percent in 2015, 4.9 Percent in 2016.” Indiana University Lilly School of Philanthropy Press Release 02/24/2015.
Wars and other conflicts have forced millions of people to flee from their homes. An unconscionable number of them are destitute and sick as fighting and persecution continues. The sheer number of refugees and other migrants has not been this high since World War II.

For example, 9.5 million Syrians seek safety that cannot be found in their own war-torn country. The international community’s response is tragically underfunded, and many relief organizations are without sufficient resources. In response to the many requests for suggestions, FJC has compiled a list of organizations that are working to aid the refugee crisis. We are happy to assist you in making donations. This is just a sample of organizations and FJC does not endorse one over another. If you would like more information on these or others, please do not hesitate to contact us. For additional information on the response please consult the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) or the USAID Center for International Disaster Information.