



THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Involving Your Family in Philanthropy (Discussion Guide)

Stimulating questions parents can ask to involve their children

What does “philanthropy” mean to you?

Why do you give of your time and money? What values are expressed through your giving and how?

How did you get started with philanthropy?

Which of your gifts have given you the most satisfaction? Why?

Which have given the least satisfaction? Why?

What do you wish you had known when you started?

As you think about involving family members in your philanthropy:

What is your vision for a collaborative giving effort within your family?

Have you shared that vision with family members?

Who do you want to include? Will everyone want to participate?

What experience do they have in philanthropy?

Are there particular issues family members are already interested in?

How do you envision working and learning with each other?

What do you hope to accomplish through involving your family in philanthropy?
In the community? In your family?

The Community Foundation has more resources to assist you.

We can offer: site visits, nonprofit research and/or assessments, identification of and learning about specific interest areas, giving and/or volunteer opportunities, solicitation of applications, convening of family meetings, grant review training, grant follow-up and evaluation, to name just a few of capabilities and expertise.