

How to leave a gift in your Will to Hospice Wairarapa

Important things to consider when preparing your Will include:

The value of your estate

One of the most important things you'll have to work out is how much your estate is worth. This involves offsetting the current value of everything you own, including your property, car, all your personal possessions and any money, against all your debts, including mortgages, loans, overdrafts, any credit or extended purchase agreements.

Who you want to include

Your Will is your chance to say how you'd like your assets to be distributed after you're gone. Gifts can be anything you own including specific items, money, property or a percentage of your estate. Of course your loved ones come first, but if you'd also like to include Hospice Wairarapa, you'll need to quote our full name and registered charity number. The formal name of Hospice Wairarapa, is Hospice Wairarapa Community Trust, and our charity number with the Department of Internal Affairs is CC41499.

Who will look after your children?

If you have children under the age of 18 you'll need to decide who you would like to take care of them if you die.

Who you would like to handle your affairs

The people who handle your affairs after you're gone are called Executors. They can be professionals, friends, family members or any combination of these. It's usual for two people to share the task of executing your Will.

What funeral arrangements you would like

Your Will also provides you with the opportunity to say what you'd like to happen at your funeral, which can greatly help your loved ones in their time of grief.

Leaving a gift to charity

For a variety of reasons, we're often not able to give as generously during our lives as we might like. Leaving a gift in your Will is a great way to support the vital work of charities we've always wanted to help but were unable to. By leaving a percentage of your estate, a sum of money or other assets to Hospice Wairarapa in your Will, you will help not only people living in the Wairarapa region who have a life limiting condition, but their families as well.

Different types of bequests

There are three main types of gifts you can choose to leave to Hospice Wairarapa.

1. **Residual:** The remainder of your estate after considering your loved ones.
2. **Pecuniary:** A specified gift of money, property or stocks and shares.
3. **Specific:** A particular named item.

It is always advisable to talk to your lawyer about the type of gift that will best suits you and your estate. Gifts left to charities in your Will are exempt from inheritance tax and capital gains tax.

Example of wording if you wish to make a Residual Bequest to Hospice Wairarapa:

I leave to Hospice Wairarapa Community Trust of 59 Renall Street, Masterton 5810, Charity Registration Number CC41499 (proportion of residue to be completed) for its general purposes and I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer or other duly authorised officer shall be a sufficient discharge to my Executors.

Example of wording if you wish to make a Pecuniary or Specific Bequest to Hospice Wairarapa:

I leave to Hospice Wairarapa Community Trust of 59 Renall Street, Masterton 5810, Charity Registration Number CC41499 (description of item) absolutely for the general purposes of the said charity and I direct that the receipt of the Treasurer or other duly authorised officer shall be a sufficient discharge to my Executors.

Preparing your Will

Making a Will is the only way you can be sure your wishes will be followed after you die. It also means less confusion and heartache for your loved ones in their time of grief. If you don't make a Will, part or all of your estate may end up going to people you never intended to benefit.

Just as the term suggests, a Will carries out your wishes. If you die without a valid Will, the law dictates how your estate is distributed. This means if you have no next of kin, your estate will pass to the Crown. And if you do have relatives, they may disagree about what should happen with your estate. Your Will clearly explains your intentions and ensures they are carried out.

In New Zealand, you can either engage a professional to write your Will or you can write it yourself. However do-it-yourself kits are not always the best solution as they can leave out important details, like what will happen if the main beneficiary does not survive you.

For a Will that covers everything you need it to, it's better to engage the services of a professional Will writer, lawyer or public trustee. Before you meet with them, you should prepare for the sort of questions they'll ask you.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is leaving a gift in your Will so important to us?

For most charities, gifts left in Wills are a vital part of their income. Gifts from people like you not only help fund the delivery of our services, but they also help ensure the financial security of our organisation.

When you leave a gift in your Will, you provide a critical source of funding for us to continue our important work, long into the future. You can feel confident your gift will be used to help a cause close to your heart.

What sort of gift left in a Will is most useful to us?

Every gift in a Will, regardless of type or size, is gratefully accepted. If you have any questions about the type or amount of your gift, please feel free to contact Hospice Wairarapa directly for a confidential discussion. Our General Manager, Suzie Adamson, manages bequests for the hospice. Please feel free to email her suzie.adamson@hospicewairarapa.co.nz or call on 06 378 8888.

Once I make a gift in my Will do I need to tell you?

If you've arranged to make a gift to us, then we would love to hear about it. That way we can thank you personally and perhaps discuss how we might invest your future gift. Letting us know what you've done also helps give us an idea of how many people are planning to leave a gift in their Will, which helps us plan for the future.

Is it okay to remain anonymous?

Of course. If you include a gift to us in your Will you're under no obligation to notify us of your intentions. However, we do recommend letting us know as this will help ensure the gift is correctly worded in your Will. It will also give us an opportunity to thank you.

Thank you for the opportunity to share this information with you