

Nonprofit Organization Endowment Funds

Trusted stewardship & capacity building support

For more than 20 years, Rose Community Foundation has helped many of Greater Denver’s nonprofit organizations create *and grow* endowment funds. In addition to expertly managing all investment and administrative tasks, we also help nonprofit organizations design successful endowment programs and cultivate them over time. Through our Nonprofit Endowment Cohort, we offer group trainings with associated incentive grants, as well as coaching on all aspects of endowment building, from donor solicitation, marketing and stewardship to growing the fund through future legacy gifts.

“The Dorothea Hogue Endowment Fund not only respects our history and commitment to serving young women and their children, but also provides the financial security to ensure we continue to support teen mothers and their children for generations to come.” - Suzanne Banning, President & CEO, Florence Crittenton Services

Serve the community for generations to come

An endowment fund is a permanently restricted fund providing an annual distribution to support the operations of a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and help create long-term stability.

Who Can Open	Nonprofit organizations independently or working in collaboration with a donor
Minimum Opening Investment	\$25,000
Set-up	Simple set up requires a signed endowment fund agreement and guidelines which can be accessed on our website.
Tax Status	Donor contributions to endowment funds are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.
Administrative Fees	1% on funds less than \$1,000,000; .5% on funds \$1,000,000 or more
Investment Options	Funds may be invested according to the Foundation’s asset allocation or an asset allocation specified by your organization.
Distribution	The nonprofit organization specifies a percentage of the fund’s value, typically up to 5%, to be distributed annually. It is the intent of the Foundation and the nonprofit organization that the principal of the fund be preserved in perpetuity.

Nonprofit Endowments – Determining Readiness

Launching an endowment fund requires commitment on the part of the organization’s staff and leadership. The checklist and questions below will help you determine if your organization is ready to start an endowment. Not every box must be checked for your organization to be “ready,” however each topic will help you start the conversation with your board as you consider the future of your organization.

Readiness checklist

<p>Mission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Your organization has been in existence for several years and has been effectively carrying out your mission since its founding. <p>Leadership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Your leadership can articulate a case for preserving your mission for the future.<input type="checkbox"/> Your organization is not experiencing severe financial crisis or upheaval in leadership.<input type="checkbox"/> You have volunteer leaders and staff who are willing to solicit endowment gifts. <p>Donor Base</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Your organization has a solid donor base of individuals who have consistently given for at least five years.<input type="checkbox"/> One or more prospective donors are identified to establish the endowment with current assets or you have reserves to seed the endowment now.	<p>Development Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> You have a development plan and staff is committed to integrating endowment building and legacy giving into the plan.<input type="checkbox"/> If there has been a recent change of leadership, the new executive director and development personnel are committed to maintaining relationships with your donors. <p>Growing the Endowment through Future Gifts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Your leadership has established or is establishing a legacy program or society.<input type="checkbox"/> Your executive director is committed to marketing your legacy society.<input type="checkbox"/> You can identify prospects who are devoted to your mission and want to preserve it for future generations.<input type="checkbox"/> Board members and staff are willing to include your organization in their own will, trust or retirement fund.
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If you feel your organization is ready, consider these questions:

1. What will the endowment purpose be (how will the money be used)?
2. Will an endowment benefit your mission and be relevant for future generations?
3. What size endowment will achieve your goals?
4. How will you promote and market the endowment?
5. What roles will staff and volunteer leadership play in endowment building?
6. What types of gifts will you accept?



If your organization is ready to take the next step, we are here to help.

Contact **Amelia Fink**, Nonprofit Endowment and Legacy Manager

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