



MOVING A DONOR ADVISED FUND TO WHITEFISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

As you advise clients on charitable giving, you're likely aware of the growing popularity of the Donor Advised Fund (DAF) as a flexible, tax-efficient tool for philanthropy. Many families appreciate how DAFs can streamline giving, foster family engagement, and serve as a launch pad for deeper community impact.

Whitefish Community Foundation assists attorneys, accountants, and financial planners who work with clients utilizing community foundations in a variety of ways, ranging from contributing to important initiatives, supporting nonprofit endowments, and making qualified charitable distributions from IRAs.

Interestingly, we have discovered that some advisors were not aware that their clients had established Donor Advised Funds through national financial institutions. Although these clients are familiar with Whitefish Community Foundation, they simply did not know that we could help them in multiple ways, including establishing a DAF to support favorite charities.

It's easy and beneficial for your client to move a Donor Advised Fund to Whitefish Community Foundation! Here's what you need to know:

Tax and administrative advantages are the same

Whitefish Community Foundation offers Donor Advised Funds with the same tax and administrative advantages as national providers, including:

- Online access for clients to view fund balances, contributions, and grant history
- Simple grantmaking process to qualified charities
- Consolidated tax reporting, with a single year-end letter for all contributions and grants
- Comprehensive back-office support for administration, tax receipts, recordkeeping, and compliance with 501(c)(3) requirements
- Favorable tax deductibility for contributions, including gifts of cash, securities, and other assets

Added value at Whitefish Community Foundation

Unlike many national DAF sponsors, Whitefish Community Foundation offers a suite of high-touch, locally-informed services that can enhance your clients' philanthropic strategies, such as:

- Personalized service from staff experienced in structuring complex gifts (e.g., appreciated stock, real estate, closely-held business interests, estate gifts)

- Local expertise on community needs, nonprofit effectiveness, and high-impact grantmaking
- Opportunities for collaboration with other donors and access to educational forums featuring local and national experts
- Deep engagement in specific issue areas, including educational opportunities and hands-on involvement for clients and their families
- Impact measurement support to help clients track and communicate the outcomes of their giving
- Family and corporate philanthropy services to foster long-term, multi-generational charitable engagement
- Administrative fees that are reinvested in the community, supporting local operations and amplifying Whitefish Community Foundation's mission
- Direct access to local experts who can research and recommend causes aligned with your clients' goals
- Staff with deep community roots who maintain close relationships with nonprofit leaders and stay attuned to emerging needs

What next?

The steps to transfer a Donor Advised Fund are surprisingly simple:

- Work with Whitefish Community Foundation's team to establish a Donor Advised Fund. Our straightforward, easy-to-complete paperwork makes it seamless and fast. Your client can mirror the terms of the existing DAF, or adjust successor advisors and legacy provisions based on their charitable intentions. Our team will walk through the process with you and your client.
- Work with your client to request a grant from the national DAF provider. Depending on the provider, this can sometimes be completed all online. Designate Whitefish Community Foundation (and reference the new DAF if possible) as the grant recipient. Your client may be able to grant the entire balance in one transaction. If not, most of the balance can be transferred to fund the new DAF, and you can work with your client to transfer the rest later.
- Before closing the DAF at the national provider, your client should download grant history and contribution information for future reference and tax documentation. Note that transfers between DAFs are tax-neutral; these transactions are not taxable events.

We look forward to working with you and your clients to make the most of their charitable giving. With a Donor Advised Fund as a baseline, your client can begin to tap into all of the many ways Whitefish Community Foundation serves as a home for charitable giving, from strategic grant making to legacy giving and everything in between.