

Making A Charitable Bequest

Interested in making a bequest through your will to the American Rose Society but are not sure how to get started?

✓ **First, choose what you wish to give.**

Each year, thousands of individuals designate a portion of their assets — by bequest — to benefit a charitable organization. Such gifts under a will have become a philanthropic tradition because they enable individuals to make significant gifts that they may not have been able to make during life.

The simplest type of bequest is a general bequest, which would direct ARS to receive a specified dollar amount or percentage of your estate.

It's a simple process - a few sentences in your will or trust are all that are needed. And, it offers you flexibility. Since the gift does not transfer until after your lifetime, you can make changes at any time.

✓ **Next, decide how you would like your gift to benefit ARS.**

Listed below are five funds that have been established to help secure the future growth and mission of ARS. It is important for you to let us know which beneficiary area(s) you wish to designate for your donation.

- ARS Area of Greatest Need
- ARS Endowment Trust
- ARS Maintenance Endowment Trust
- ARS Educational Endowment Trust
- ARS Research Endowment Trust

✓ **Then, inform ARS of your plans.**

Please let us know your plans for such a gift so that we may acknowledge your generosity. Your name will be added to our Heritage Member list, which recognizes current or deferred planned giving philanthropy in support of ARS. The name(s) only list will be included in the magazine and on our legacy gift plaque to be displayed at the American Rose Center in Shreveport. Or, we would be happy to honor your wishes to have your name(s) remain anonymous.

During this process it is important that you meet with your estate planning attorney. Whether you need to create a will or simply update an existing document, we strongly recommend that you seek the assistance of legal counsel.

Questions? Please contact Laura Pfender, Director of Development, at: laura@ars-hq.org or Jeff Ware, ARS Executive Director, at (800) 637-6534.