



A homeless family finds stability at SOME's Zagami House, one of SOME's affordable family housing programs with supportive services in the District.

you

can make a difference



So Others Might Eat

Create your Legacy and Provide Hope and Dignity to the Children, Women and Men whom SOME Serves.

If you are considering ways to help others by means of your material blessings, there are many opportunities available to create a legacy that will provide the greatest assistance to the people SOME serves for years to come.

legacy of hope.....

SOME's mission

SOME is an interfaith organization whose mission is to help poor and homeless men, women and children in the nation's capital. Founded in 1970, we provide food, clothing, healthcare, job training, counseling, addiction treatment, and affordable housing to thousands of families and single adults. We provide the tools that individuals need to break the cycle of homelessness and to reach their full human potential. We are able to do this because caring people in our community are committed to helping SOME alleviate pain and suffering and to finding a solution for homelessness. Both your annual gifts and your long-term gifts through estate plans are vital to our work.

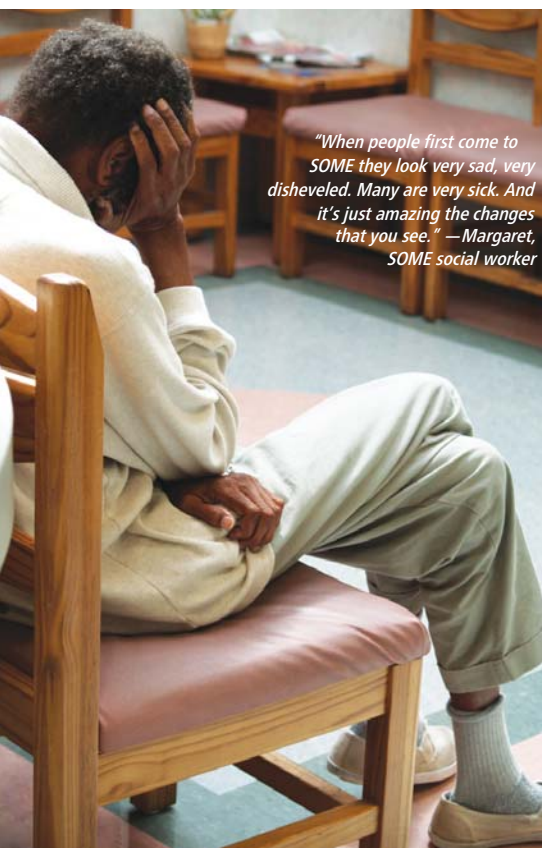
Your planned gift may be part of a comprehensive estate plan that offers a way to complete a lifetime of giving, or it may allow you to make a significant gift that might not be possible during your lifetime. Planned gifts are also an effective means of providing for you and your family by maximizing your personal objectives and minimizing taxes. By thoughtful planning, your gift can provide both the greatest assistance and the most attractive benefits for you.

Please consider deepening your commitment to SOME and to the future of poor and homeless men, women and children in our community by including SOME in your estate plan.



ways to give

Making charitable contributions is a creative process that adapts to your



"When people first come to SOME they look very sad, very disheveled. Many are very sick. And it's just amazing the changes that you see." —Margaret, SOME social worker

wishes. This booklet offers general information that may be helpful as you plan for the long-term distribution of your property to family, friends, and charities, such as SOME.

You may make an unrestricted gift, which will give SOME the most flexibility, or you may choose to give to one of SOME's programs that is particularly near to your heart. We would be pleased to speak with you about your wishes and to help you choose a SOME program that fulfills your hopes and provides for the men, women and children we serve in a meaningful way.

Depending on the gift vehicles selected, you can expect to obtain some or all of the following benefits:

- Provide for loved ones
- Help further the mission of SOME
- Reduce income tax and avoid capital gains tax
- Eliminate Federal estate tax
- Increase expendable income
- Reduce costs and time in estate settlement

bequests and planned gifts

The following forms of bequests and planned gifts should be reviewed with your personal financial or tax advisor to select the method best suited to your unique circumstances. A SOME representative would be pleased to provide you and your advisor with whatever assistance you would find helpful.

Bequests

A bequest is a provision made in your will or living trust that specifically sets forth the portion or actual dollar amount that you wish to leave to family, friends, or charities, such as SOME.

- **General Bequest:** A gift that is payable from the general assets of your estate.
- **Specific Bequest:** A gift of specified real or other personal property.
- **Residuary Bequest:** A gift provided from the remainder of your estate after all of your debts, expenses, and taxes are paid, and your loved ones have been provided for.
- **Contingent Bequest:** A gift from your estate only when designated beneficiaries fail to survive you.
- **Bequest by Codicil:** A gift designated through an amendment or appendix to a will that has already been completed.



Tonda and Cherie at SOME's housing for homeless families. Here, they find stability while Tonda continues her education and works part-time.

Charitable Lead Trust

A charitable lead trust is a vehicle for transferring substantial assets to your children, grandchildren, or others at very low gift or estate tax rates by permitting the income from those assets to go to a charitable organization such as SOME for a fixed period of time. The income is distributed each year to the charitable organization for a chosen number of years, after which the assets once again become available to your heirs or others. Example:

- You set up the trust with a charity and establish a payment schedule for a period of years. This is called an annuity. As each annual (or more frequent) payment is made to the charity, a deduction for that payment, as well as income earned, is allocated to you.

At the end of the term, the remainder of the trust goes to your designated beneficiaries, such as children, grandchildren, or a favorite charity or charities.

Amoni proudly shows off her excellent report card in the apartment she shares with her grandmother at SOME's Barnaby House. She now has a stable, safe place to call home.

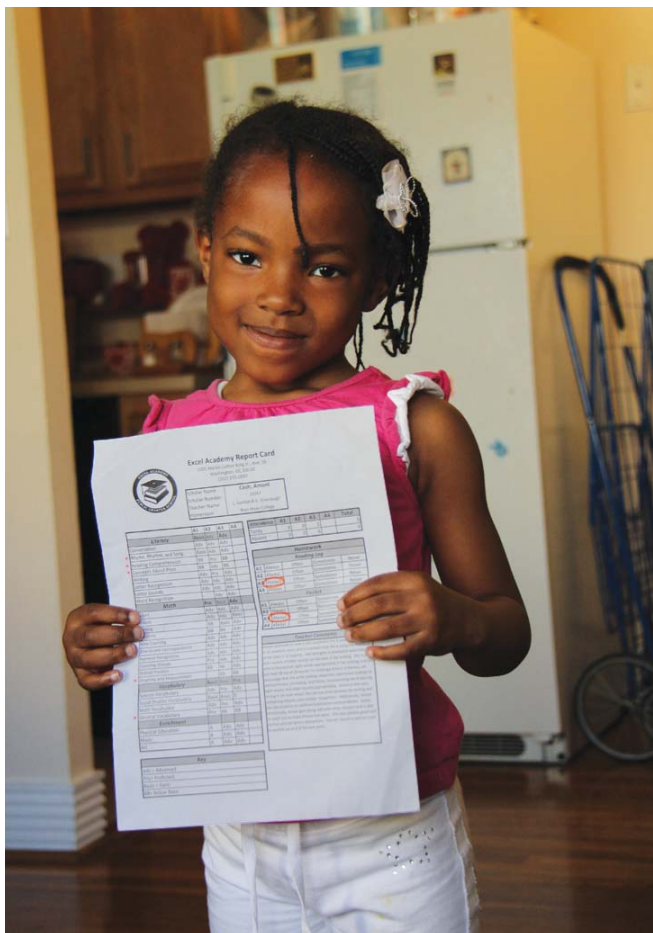
Gifts of Life Insurance Policies

A gift of life insurance is an ideal vehicle for making a significant charitable gift. By naming a charity as beneficiary of an insurance policy, you may deduct the annual premiums payable on the insurance as a charitable contribution.

Beneficiary under Qualified Pension or Profit-Sharing Plan, IRA, 401(k), or Keogh Plan. Example:

- SOME is named the primary beneficiary if you do not have a spouse to receive distributions, or
- SOME is named the contingent beneficiary and would receive distributions after a spouse.

The advantage of naming a charity as beneficiary is that no income tax or estate tax is taken out. If the distributions go to a spouse, the deduction will usually apply for estate tax purposes, although income tax will be paid. If the distributions go to others, both an estate tax and an income tax will be due, the aggregate of which can be as much as 75%.



how to make a will that works

The following offers answers to commonly asked questions and general information that may be helpful as you plan for long-term distribution of your property. You might find it useful to take a few minutes to consider the four P's of estate planning:

Persons... Who are the people and charitable interests for whom you would like to provide?

Property... List all of your property, along with its costs, today's value, and the way it is owned.

Plans... Consider how you would like to "match" your property with the persons in your life.

Planners... List professional advisors who would assist you in making your plans a reality.

Your will is just one part of an effective estate plan but a vitally important part, regardless of your age or assets. Not only does a will allow you to make your own decision about distribution, but it also makes it much easier on the loved ones you leave behind. Regardless of how much you are passing on, if you don't have a will, your particular state's laws will decide how and to whom your property will be distributed.

What happens when people die without a valid will? Their state's laws of "descent and distribution" come into play. These laws amount to a state-written will for those who haven't made their own. Provisions vary from state to state. A court will decide who should be your administrator or who should be guardian of your surviving minor children. You must make your wishes known via a will, trust, or other arrangement.

What is "bonding" and how does it work? Many states require that estate administrators be bonded to ensure that they handle the estate honestly. It's a form of insurance.



A hot meal and a warm welcome are always provided to guests in SOME's Dining Room.

Does everyone have an "estate?" Yes, if they own anything at all. The term applies not just to real estate but to cash, all personal property, investments, retirement plan assets, life insurance, and other forms of assets.

Does joint ownership make a will unnecessary? No. It may create needless taxes and result in gift taxes being due. It may also deny you complete control over your property while you're still living.

Can a will help reduce estate taxes? Yes. You can make provisions that can reduce estate taxes. You may also be able to direct which heirs will be responsible for the payment of taxes if you do not wish for them to be borne equally. Tax laws change. You and your advisors should review your plans whenever legislation is enacted which may affect them.

Should both husband and wife have wills? Yes, even when the two wills are essentially the same.

What is the "unlimited marital deduction?" A husband or wife may leave all property to his or her spouse and pay no federal estate taxes on the estate of the first to die. In your will, you can take advantage of the marital deduction and eliminate taxes in this manner.

Do I need a will if my estate is small? Yes. The smaller the estate, the more important that it be settled quickly, as delays usually mean increased expenses. And your estate may be larger than you think.

Can I write my own will without hiring an attorney? Yes. However, it's generally not advisable. Many "homemade" wills are declared invalid by the courts. There is no substitute for the professional expertise of a competent attorney.

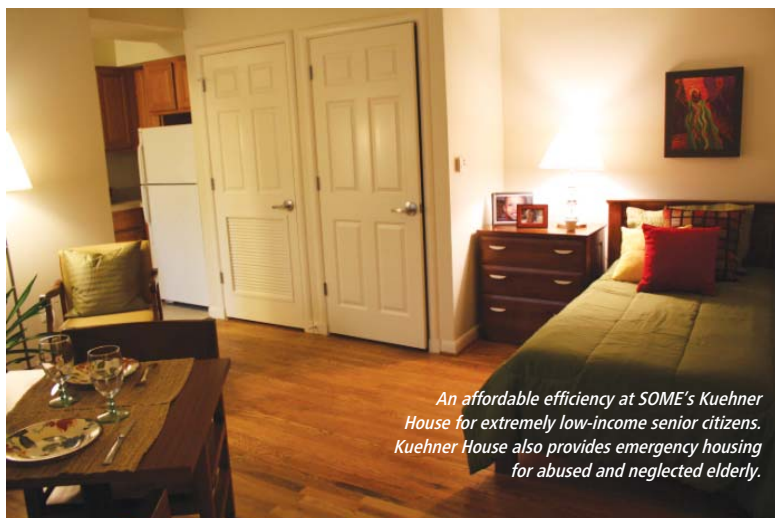
How much does it cost to have an attorney write my will? That depends on the complexity of your plan. Wills generally cost less than most people expect and less than the emotional and financial cost of not having one. Ask your attorney in advance about the fee. It's a question asked and answered routinely.

Can I do anything to reduce attorney fees? Yes. Attorneys charge for their time and knowledge, so the more time you can save them, the less the cost should be. When you meet with your attorney, take along all the basic information that will be needed. Make the lists described in the four P's on page 5. Remember to include your Social Security and Veterans Administration numbers (if applicable) and recent income tax records, as well as pension and profit-sharing information. Be prepared to discuss who you would like to be appointed to settle your estate and/or to be guardian for minor children, if any.

Can I name my spouse as personal representative? Yes. Or a close relative, friend, or the trust department of a bank or other professional fiduciary may be named. Ask your attorney or other advisors for guidance.

Must I get permission from the personal representative before naming him or her in my will? You should. It's not a legal requirement, but it is a courtesy. Your assets or the terms of your will may dictate the qualifications necessary for a person to serve as your representative.

Should my will direct what compensation my personal representative is to receive for serving? Fees are generally based on the size of the estate. The probate court will approve the representative's or administrator's fee, so it's not necessary to specify fees in the will. If the personal representative is not a corporate entity but your spouse, a close relative, friend, or beneficiary, he or she may choose to waive such compensation.



What happens if my personal representative dies before I do and I have not named an alternative? The court appoints an alternate administrator who may not be the one you would choose. Naming an alternate representative, preferably someone younger than you, is a good idea. The trust department of your bank may be a good choice to act as representative.

What does the personal representative do?

- Obtains the death certificate and provides copies to your insurance company, the Social Security office, and others.
- Notifies banks of your accounts or safe-deposit boxes.
- Arranges for appraisal of your property, if required.
- Safeguards your property.
- Presents your will to the probate court.
- Defends your will if challenged.
- Locates witnesses to your will if necessary.
- Collects debts due your estate.
- Advertises for any just claims against your estate and pays them in order of priority.
- Provides interim management for business interests.



- Inspects and maintains your real estate.
- Collects rents if and when due.
- Completes and files state and federal estate and income tax returns, as required by law, in time to avoid penalties.
- Defends your estate against improper tax assessments.
- Establishes any trusts created by your will.
- Secures any payments due such trusts.
- Disposes of your property according to your instructions.
- Prepares final accounting and obtains receipts and release from heirs, if appropriate.



Should I include funeral instructions in my will? It is usually better to leave separate instructions and tell your relatives or close friends where to find them.

Is my will confidential? A will becomes a public document at death, available to anyone who wishes to see it.

How much detail should a will contain regarding the disposition of particular items of property? Enough to prevent any misunderstandings among heirs but not in such detail that any sale of property before your death would cause confusion. It may be best to treat your property as a whole and divide it by percentages. Of course, your decision will depend on the amount and nature of the assets you are distributing.

How far should I go in my will to try to foresee future events? Think ahead on behalf of your heirs as much as practical. Try to make bequests appropriate to their future needs and family circumstances while leaving them free to use their inheritance as needed.

Should a trust be created in a will? You may be able to reduce or eliminate taxes through the use of one or more trusts created in your will. Trusts can relieve a surviving spouse of the problems of managing investments. Trusts can enable you to make meaningful charitable gifts while providing your survivors with a life income. Your advisors can give you more information about trusts.

Aren't charitable bequests made mainly by the wealthy or by those with no close relatives? No. Many gifts by will are made by people who first provide for their loved ones and then choose to leave the remainder of their assets to a charity that is an important part of their lives.

Even a small portion of a typical estate can be a very meaningful gift to SOME.



Joe receives excellent medical care from Ebony, one of SOME's Medical Assistants.

How do people usually make such bequests? Most simply designate a percentage of their estate to one or more charitable organizations. Some name specific property or a specific dollar amount. Others name a charity as final beneficiary to receive whatever remains in the estate after heirs are provided for.

Is there a limit to how much I can give to charity in my will? There may be limits in some states. Ask your attorney.

Should I notify a charitable organization that I have included it in my will? This can be helpful. It can affect long-range planning, often in vital ways. SOME is always grateful to learn of a planned bequest, and it assures that the gift will be used as intended.

Is there any danger that my bequest may not be received as planned? Yes, that can happen due to using an incorrect or unofficial name in your will. SOME is officially listed as SOME, Inc. (So Others Might Eat).

Who can be a witness to a will? A person must be mentally competent to be a witness. It is helpful if the witnesses are about the same age or younger than the person making the will.

Must the witnesses read the will and know its contents? No. They merely verify it is your will and that you have signed it in their presence.

Is it legal for a witness to also be a beneficiary of the will? Yes. But in some states, such a witness may not receive property left to him or her under the terms of the will unless there are other witnesses to prove the will is authentic.

Once I have a will, should I ever have to change it? You should review your will periodically because even the best wills can become outdated.

Adjustments may be called for if your marital status, financial status, or charitable interests change.



Students at SOME's Center for Employment Training.



If you have more children, if your designated personal representatives or guardians can't serve, or if you acquire property in another state, revisions may also be in order. Updating your will may require nothing more than a simple codicil (amendment).

Am I required to change my will when moving to another state? Most states will recognize a will drafted in a state where you previously resided if the will was properly executed in that state. But it is always a good idea to have your will reviewed by an attorney in the state of your new residence.

Once my will is completed, where should I keep it? Sign one copy and keep it in your home, office, or bank safe-deposit box, or ask your attorney to keep it. Retain an unsigned duplicate so you can check it periodically to see if it needs updating. Note the location of the signed copy on the duplicate.

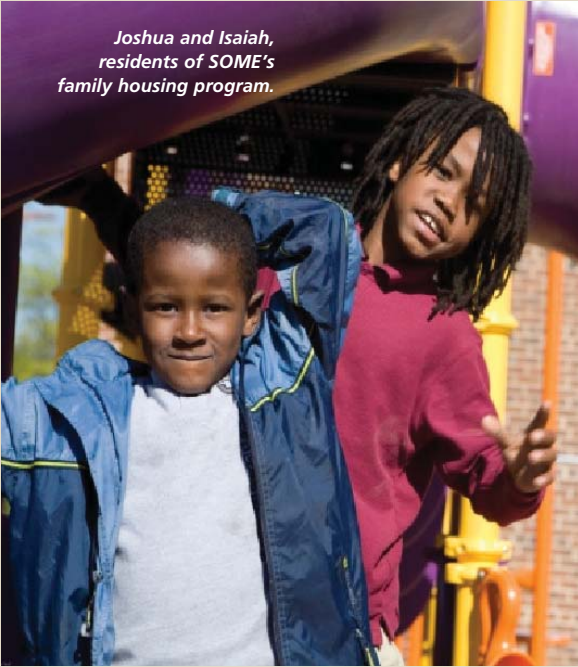
Before storing your will in a safe-deposit box, check to see if it will be readily accessible to your executor. In some states, safe-deposit boxes are sealed (unable to access) for a time upon the renter's death.

Is there anything else I need to know about wills?

This booklet only covers some basic points. Each person's circumstances and wishes are unique — another reason you should consult with an attorney about your will.



*A patient being treated by
SOME Ophthalmologist,
Dr. Wendy Gasch.*

A photograph of two young Black boys, Joshua and Isaiah, standing outdoors on a playground. Joshua is in the foreground, wearing a blue jacket over a white shirt, and Isaiah is behind him, wearing a red shirt. They are both smiling. The background shows yellow and purple playground equipment.

*Joshua and Isaiah,
residents of SOME's
family housing program.*

We hope this brief overview helps as you make your important plans for the future of your loved ones and your favorite charities. Please contact your attorney or professional advisor for instructions on how to prepare your will so that your wishes are met.

SOME recognizes that your estate planning intentions are a very personal matter and that you may wish to

keep them confidential. However, if you are contemplating a bequest or planned gift to SOME, or have already provided for SOME, knowledge of your intentions will enable us to recognize your generosity during your lifetime, as well as beyond.

**Thank you for considering naming SOME as
a beneficiary in your will.**

**For more information, please contact Linda Parisi,
Chief Development Officer, at 202.292.4413 or
lparisi@some.org.**

**Legal Name: SOME, Inc.
Tax ID: 23-7098123**



James celebrating his new job after graduating from the Building Maintenance program at SOME CET.



So Others Might Eat

We meet the immediate daily needs of the people we serve with food, clothing, and health care. We help break the cycle of homelessness by offering services, such as affordable housing, job training, addiction treatment, and counseling, to the poor, the elderly and individuals with mental illness. Each day, SOME is restoring hope and dignity one person at a time. We invite you to join us.

For more information, please contact Linda Parisi, Chief Development Officer, at 202.292.4413 or email lparisi@some.org.

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