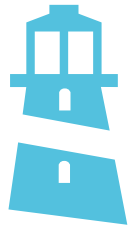


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The Answer is in the Wind

An old proverb says "Raise your sail one foot and you get ten feet of wind." These words can also be applied to estate planning. With just a little planning and the right kind of help, you can make a world of difference.

Estate planning is a lot like sailing. With the right equipment, a map, a compass and strong sails, you can safely reach your destination and avoid trouble. Like sailing on a fair day, a current estate plan can help you achieve your goals and plan for whatever lies ahead.

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Northwest Assistance Ministries

15555 Kuykendahl Road, Houston, TX, 77090-3651 | www.neflegacy.org

For more information, please contact Brian Carr, Chief Advancement Officer (281) 885-4605 | bcarr@namonline.org

**"A sailor without
a destination
cannot hope for a
favorable wind."**

– Leon Tec, M.D.

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A will or trust that provides for family lets your loved ones how much you care. It also gives you an opportunity to continue to support the causes that are important to you. Even better, when you include a gift to a charitable cause, such as our mission, you benefit.

Including a gift to us in your plan is easier than you might think. You can make a difference with a gift of almost anything you own:

- Cash in a checking or savings account
- Personal items such as jewelry, art or a stamp collection
- Stock, bonds, real estate or other investments

Regardless of what you do, it's important that you have a plan for the future. Just as one wind can propel a fleet of ships, one plan can make a big difference. Please contact us for a free copy of our guide to estate planning and plan for the people and causes that mean the most to you.

Navigate toward a better future
with the same ease as a compass.

W

Establish your legacy
provide for your loved ones
and causes you care about.

Save on taxes
with the right estate plan.



Don't ~~~~~ Miss ~~~~~ the ~~~~~ Mark

In a sailboat race, each boat navigates the course by sailing around a series of "marks" or buoys before racing to the finish line. If a sailboat "misses the mark," the boat must complete a 360-degree circle around the mark before continuing on to the next buoy. Today, the expression "missing the mark" is used when one does not achieve an intended goal or a complete plan.

While you may not be a sailor, it's possible to miss the mark by failing to plan for the future. Failing to plan can result in unintended consequences such as accidental disinheritance of your loved ones or loss of your estate through excess taxes.

There are easy ways to plan for the people and causes you care about, and you don't even need to visit an attorney. If you own life insurance or a retirement plan, you have the ability to name beneficiaries for your assets.

By completing a beneficiary designation form and naming your intended beneficiaries, you can provide for the people and causes that mean the most to you. If you choose to write in a mission like ours as a beneficiary in your plans, you could also benefit in the following ways:

- You will leave a meaningful legacy to support our work;
- Assist our mission without changing your lifestyle;
- Pass significant assets outside of probate;
- Achieve your charitable goals while still providing for your loved ones.

To achieve your goals, call your retirement account administrator or life insurance carrier and get started designating your beneficiaries. If you wish to support our cause, please contact us and let us know how you would like your gift to be used.





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Margie and Rick Crump



For more than 30 years, Margie and Rick Crump have been investing their time, resources and creative ideas into NAM. Their investment has paid dividends in the lives of thousands of Neighbors in Need.

Margie began volunteering for NAM in the 1980s, as a member of Cypress-Woodlands Junior Forum. She served as a counselor in the Assistance program, volunteered at the resale store, and later delivered nutritious lunches to seniors through Meals on Wheels.

In 1998 Margie was asked to join NAM's Board of Directors. "At the time, the most NAM had ever made on a fundraiser was \$17,000," Margie says. She recalls saying, 'We can do better than that,' and the idea for Jeans & Jewels – A Texas Size Party was born.

The first Jeans & Jewels Gala was held in 1999 and drew a sold-out crowd, raising more than \$160,000. The next year raised \$240,000—and the event has continued to be NAM's largest fundraiser every year since.

"It just showed our community wanted to support NAM," Margie says.

Investing in the Future

Along with encouraging the community to support NAM, Rick and Margie have been generous donors for many years. Recently they established a fund within the NAM Endowment Fund that will make an annual distribution to NAM, with half of the money going to the Children's Clinic

and the other half to a priority need designated by the Board of Directors.

"It was a gift we wanted to make over and above our annual giving," says Rick. "The idea was to create a mechanism our family can add to over the years. This will assure continuous support for NAM once Margie and I aren't here to write a check."

Rick currently serves on the NAM Endowment Board, and recognizes the importance of the Endowment Fund to ensure NAM will be here for generations to come.

"I do believe people look for opportunities to leave a legacy," says Rick. "You get to a point in life where you don't necessarily have to worry about paying off the mortgage, your kids are educated, and you might have a few resources that could be put into an endowment. It's an important part of the NAM organization, and I've been excited to work on it."