



EQUALITY CIRCLE

ENSURING THE FUTURE FOR LGBTQ EQUALITY

Legacy Gift Planning Ideas for Friends of HRC

DENSIL PORTEOUS: REPRESENTATION MATTERS

As a student at Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio, Densil Porteous recalls the day HRC connected with his college campus to encourage voter turnout and immediately felt like he found a place to call home. Densil remembers how excited he was when he received his HRC membership card and when he attended his first HRC dinner. “I want to be part of this organization, the work is too important” recalls Densil, and 16 years later he is still involved, currently serving on HRC’s Board of Directors.

As a gay Black man, representation matters to Densil, especially now as a parent. He often considers the world he is leaving for his child; a place for her now and into adulthood. Densil remarked, “The legacy I leave is her legacy as well. When I am no longer here, she will be able to talk about her dad and what he did to continue his support to HRC and the LGBTQ+ community.”

While raising children can be hard, joining the Equality Circle is not. He

saw the list of current members and thought, “Why are there such few names? Why aren’t there more of us here? After we are gone, we can ensure that the organization sustains. This is our legacy.” He found it easy to add HRC as a beneficiary to his estate plans, excited to support the organization even after his passing.

Densil proudly wears his Equality Circle member pin and walks into spaces with the hope of inspiring others to think about how they can also continue to support Human Rights Campaign. He hopes that others will consider joining him in the Equality Circle and providing the inspiration for the next college student who is looking for a “home.”

For more information on leaving a gift to HRC through your will, trust or beneficiary designation, please contact **Sylvester Owens, Director of Estate Planning, 202-572-8918** or sylvester.owens@hrc.org.



“I believe in the Human Rights Campaign so much that I want to continue to give when I am no longer here. It’s so easy to add HRC as a beneficiary in your estate plans!”

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THE IMPORTANCE OF HAVING A WILL

▶ **What is a Will?**

Your last will and testament is a formal document that specifies your wishes when you pass away. If you do not have anything spelled out, the government will determine how your belongings, assets, property, children and pets are placed among your living family.

▶ **Why should I have a Will?**

Having an estate plan in place will give you peace of mind that you'll make a lasting impact on the people and causes you care about the most.

▶ **Can I leave a gift to an organization in my Will?**

Yes! You can leave a percentage of your estate to your favorite organizations and charities, such

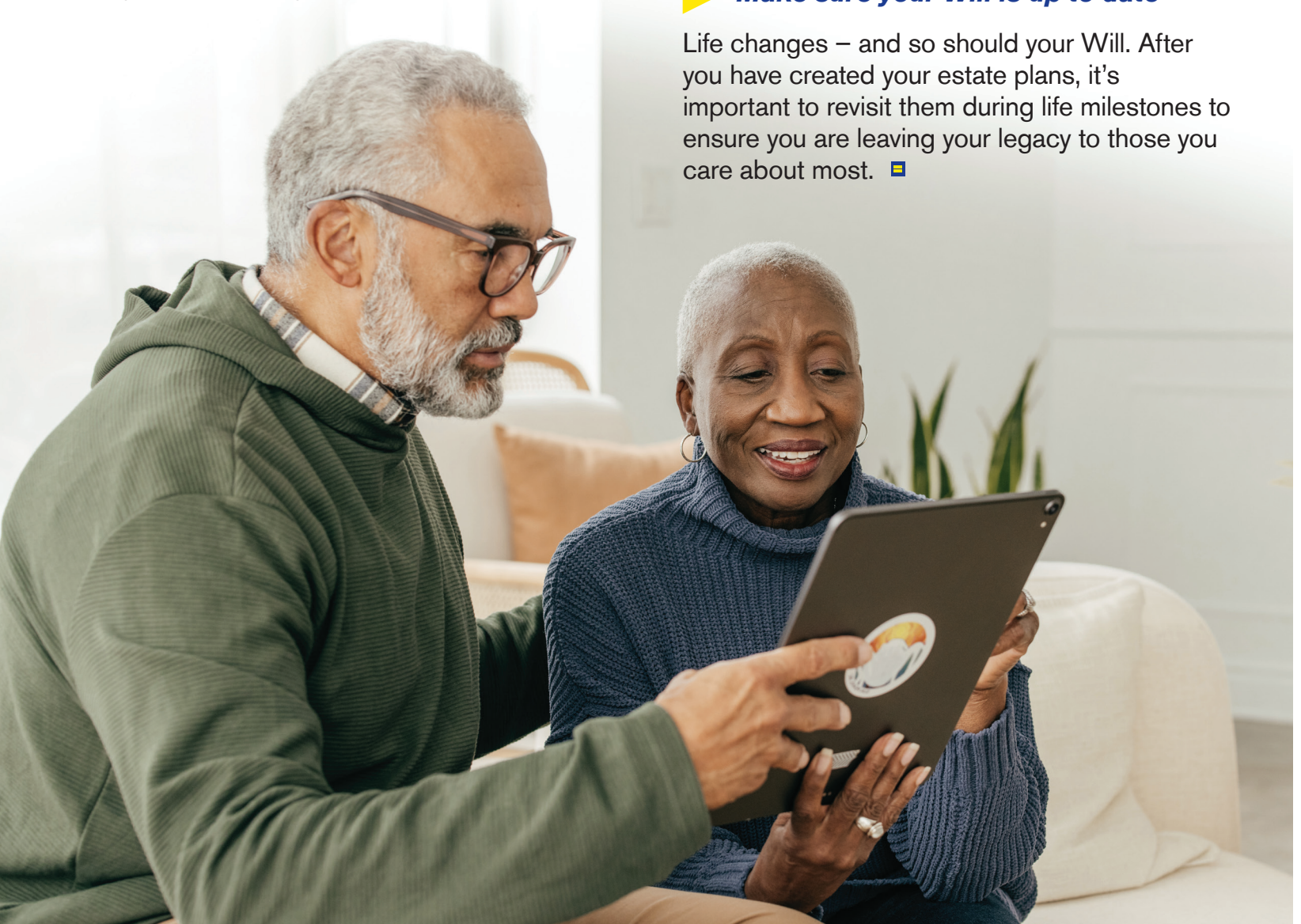
as HRC or the HRC Foundation. Your support of HRC reflects your values – values of justice, equality and compassion. A gift left to HRC in your will or trust is a way to ensure your values live on for future generations. Your commitment to a future of equality and fairness for all can be your lasting legacy!

▶ **How do I create a Will?**

We're here to help! HRC is offering you the opportunity to easily create your estate plan for free through our partners at Giving Docs. It's simple and straightforward: in just a few minutes, we'll walk you through each step. Once you're done, you can revisit or update your documents at any time in the future.

▶ **Make sure your Will is up to date**

Life changes – and so should your Will. After you have created your estate plans, it's important to revisit them during life milestones to ensure you are leaving your legacy to those you care about most. 🇺🇸





FREE ESTATE PLANNING DOCUMENTS FOR HRC SUPPORTERS

As our community and the world continue to face extraordinary challenges, many HRC members want to take an important step to protect their families and create their legacies by preparing a Will.

To help make creating your estate plan easier, HRC is proud to offer you **free access** to Giving Docs. Through their online tools, you can create your Will, Codicil and other important estate planning documents. Access to Giving Docs is free for life, and you can update your plan at any time.

Many HRC members have used their Will to leave a gift to HRC and help create a world where every member of the LGBTQ+ family has the freedom to live their truth without fear, and with equality under the law.

To get started, visit hrc.org/givingdocs to create your account with Giving Docs.

If you have any questions about how to use this service, or about how to leave a gift to HRC through your estate plans, please contact R. Sylvester Owens, Director of Estate Planning, **202-572-8918** or sylvester.owens@hrc.org.

More LGBTQ+ Couples Eligible for Survivors Benefits

The U.S. Social Security Administration announced more same-sex surviving partners and spouses are entitled to survivor benefits.

If laws prohibiting marriage for same-sex couples prevented you from being married at the time of your partner's death, you may be eligible. Learn more at: hrc.org/ssa



JOIN HRC'S EQUALITY CIRCLE TODAY!

When you leave a gift to Human Rights Campaign or Human Rights Campaign Foundation in your will, trust, or beneficiary designation, you are eligible for membership in the Equality Circle. To activate your Equality Circle membership, visit myplanwithhrc.org/giftnotification or send an email to legacyplanning@hrc.org.

As a member of the Equality Circle, you will enjoy these exclusive benefits:

- Equality Circle membership certificate, lapel pin and newsletter
- Personal liaison to HRC
- Access to HRC leadership
- Invitation to HRC's annual two-day leadership conference in Washington D.C., which includes briefings by members of Congress, HRC senior staff and Washington insiders
- Invitations to exclusive events, VIP receptions and political briefings
- Invitation to Board luncheon during National Dinner weekend
- Name recognition in the printed versions of HRC's annual report, National Dinner program and your local community's dinner program (*HRC never publishes the names of our donors online, in order to protect your privacy*). You may also choose to remain anonymous if you prefer not to have your name printed, and this will not affect your other Equality Circle benefits
- Name permanently engraved on the "Wall of Hope" in the HRC building

Sample Bequest Language

"I give and bequeath ____% [or \$____] to the Human Rights Campaign [or Human Rights Campaign Foundation], Federal Tax I.D. _____, located at 1640 Rhode Island Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, for its general purposes."

Tax I.D. Numbers

Human Rights Campaign
52-1243457

Human Rights Campaign Foundation
52-1481896



Need assistance?
I'm here to help!

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HUMAN
RIGHTS
CAMPAIGN

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Human Rights Campaign & Human Rights Campaign Foundation
1640 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, www.hrc.org