

## **Suggested Testamentary Language for Charitable Gifts**

*Prepared by the Endowment Committee of River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation*

The language you use in a Will or Trust that establishes your gift to charities, including River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation, depends on your unique circumstances and charitable objectives. We hope these sample provisions – whether used individually or in combination – will be helpful to you and your attorney.

### **Unrestricted general legacy**

“I give to the Endowment Fund of River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6301 River Road, Bethesda, MD 20817, \$\_\_\_\_\_ [or an amount equal to \_\_\_\_\_ per cent (\_\_\_\_\_% ) of my adjusted gross estate as finally determined for federal tax purposes”].

### **Amount of gift dependent on size of the estate**

“I give to the Endowment Fund of River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6301 River Road, Bethesda, MD 20817, an amount equal to \_\_\_\_\_ per cent (\_\_\_\_\_% ) of my adjusted gross estate as finally determined for federal tax purposes, or \_\_\_\_\_ dollars (\$\_\_\_\_\_), whichever is larger.”

### **Gift of residuary estate**

“I give the residue of the property owned by me at the time of my death, real and personal and wherever situate, to the Endowment Fund of River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6301 River Road, Bethesda, MD 20817.

### **Specific legacy**

“I give my real property [or my (collection of photographs, books, and paintings)] located at \_\_\_\_\_ to the Endowment Fund of River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6301 River Road, Bethesda, MD 20817. NOTE: RRUUC will accept gifts of real or personal property subject to approval by the RRUUC Board of Trustees.

### **Example of wording for a “Contingent” gift of residuary estate**

“I give the residue of the property owned by me at my death, real and personal and wherever situate, to my [son/daughter] \_\_\_\_\_ if [he/she] survives me. If [he/she] does not survive me, I give my residuary estate to the Endowment Fund of River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6301 River Road, Bethesda, MD 20817.

### **Provision allowing for both income tax and estate tax benefits**

“I instruct that all of my charitable gifts, bequests, and devises shall be made, to the extent possible, from property that constitutes “income in respect of a decedent” (IRD) as that term is defined in the Internal Revenue Code.” NOTE: Gifts involving IRD, such as gifts from IRAs, 401(k), and 403(b) plans, ordinarily will involve planning and drafting with your estate planning attorney to ensure the most tax efficient use of these assets.

### **Proper name**

The proper name to use for a beneficiary designation in a will, trust, life insurance or annuity contract, retirement plan, and investment or bank account is the Endowment Fund of River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6301 River Road, Bethesda, MD 20817.

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