

Too Late. I Already Have a Will.

You can still use your will to make a legacy gift.
It's simple.



Life changes. So should your will.

Some time ago, you had an attorney prepare a will for you. *Phew*, you thought. *That's out of the way.* You tucked your new will safely away and forgot about it.

Chances are, your life has changed since you first completed your will. The old friend you named as personal representative is now incapacitated. You've been giving financial help to one of your grandchildren and would like to modify your bequest to him. There are new grandchildren on the scene. A divorce in the family. Not to mention the estate tax laws that seem to change as often as celebrity fashion trends.

Review your will every five years or so to keep things up to date. When you do, consider adding a charitable gift.

Perhaps you would like to include a tribute gift to Jefferson Center in your will or adjust the amount of a charitable gift you made previously.

Don't worry. When it's time to make changes, you do not usually need to go to the time and expense of writing a whole new will. That's what a codicil is for.

Codicil: No, it's not a brand of cough syrup.

A codicil is a document that makes specific, limited amendments to your existing will, but leaves all other provisions unchanged. With a codicil, you can change your personal representative, modify the amount you will leave to a family member or remove a bequest of property you no longer own. You can also use a codicil to make a charitable gift to a Jefferson Center.

A codicil is simple, effective, and just as legal and binding as the original will. It is signed and witnessed like a will, and it should be kept in the same safe place where you have your will. If you've given a copy of your will to your personal representative or any family members, be sure to give them a copy of your codicil, too.

The cost to make small adjustments to your will should be quite reasonable. The will you wrote has already done the heavy lifting. Now you are just fine-tuning things. Contact your attorney and ask what a codicil will cost.

Leaving a legacy has never been simpler.

Please consider updating your will to include a gift to Jefferson Center. It's very simple, costs you nothing during your lifetime, and helps ensure that we can continue the mission you value far into the future.

Interested?

We can send you and your attorney, at no obligation, sample codicil language you can use to include a gift to Jefferson Center in your will. We can also collaborate with you and your advisors to be sure your gift supports the area of our mission that is most meaningful to you. We're here to help. Just ask!



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