

Henderson Settlement

Creating opportunities for better lives through Christ-centered service

Designated Gifts

Many of us believe that we can best support a specific Henderson Settlement ministry area by making a designated gift in support of that ministry. While this type of gift sends a welcome and strong signal that there is support for the work that is being done, a restricted gift can frequently be somewhat counterproductive.

Think, for example, about your own household budget. You have the monthly need to buy food, pay for medical insurance and expenses, pay for housing expenses, perhaps also for clothing and educational expenses, etc. But, your employer is heavily invested in seeing that all employees prosper through educational development. To this end, the employer designates 50% of your salary for educational use. I'm certain that you can see the problem. First, you really cannot personally take advantage of 50% of your wages as educational payments...it's far too large a sum. Second, you cannot maintain a home, feed and care for yourself and cover the transportation expenses to get to work and school on half of your income. In the end, you fail to become educated because the allocation of funds prevents this outcome.

The situation can be very much the same as we operate the Henderson Settlement. The Executive Leadership Team is in touch with the needs of the community and each of our areas of ministry, and knows how best to allocate the resources we receive in support of our ministries. Financial contributions made for general operational expenses (i.e., without designation) allow the lead team to make appropriate choices at the appropriate time in support of each of our ministry areas. In addition, accounting complexity is reduced (imagine having to subdivide your bank account into separate funds for each one of your household expenses, and perfectly anticipate the amount of money you will need for each of those areas...such as heating expenses). Our ability to react to unplanned changes also is increased. Examples of unplanned changes might include such items as a weather event that damages several of our buildings, or a community upset that results in a spike in the need for food assistance.

We also recognize that many of our supporters have a 'true heart' for one or more areas of our ministry. We do maintain a group of categories that are broadly enough defined to be practical to use and to manage. These include Infant support, youth support, senior support, etc. A complete listing of the categories and definitions explaining how money donated to this category will be used, can be found at <http://www.hendersonsettlement.com/funds.html>

We truly appreciate your faithful support of our operations and our ministries. When possible, we ask that you consider doing so via undesignated gifts to the general operating fund. If that does not meet your need, we ask that you make clear which of our focused ministry categories you wish to support, instead. **If you have any questions regarding how all of this works, please feel free to give us a call at any time (Jim Knight, 513-884-4924 or Brittaney Patterson, 606-337-3613 ext 329).**