

# **Charitable Foundations**

Hemenway & Barnes has served the nonprofit community for over 150 years. Our team includes lawyers, trustees, philanthropic advisors, investment professionals, and thought leaders – and, most importantly, we are partners with those foundations and charitable entities seeking both time-tested and creative ways to maximize their impact in the philanthropic community.

### Formation and Mission Development

With deep experience establishing a wide variety of entities serving charitable purposes, we can help you determine whether a private foundation is the best choice to further your philanthropic and legacy goals. Our team can help you turn your vision into a platform, with a structure, mission statement, and operational plan to meet your short and long term goals and fulfill your charitable purposes for decades to come.

#### Governance

A charitable foundation built on strong governance can last for generations. Over the years, Hemenway & Barnes professionals have served as directors or trustees of a large variety of charities, including numerous private foundations. As part of the fiber of the New England philanthropic community, we appreciate the problems that charitable organizations face day-to-day. Our philanthropic team has helped foundations craft their governance and operational practices in a way that is consistent with the highest legal standards and makes sense for each individual situation.

Our professionals lead seminars around New England and beyond on topics related to private foundations and philanthropy. We can advise on choice of entity (trust, corporation, or LLC), appropriate state law, liability and risk management, and alternative governance structures, in each case based on your specific circumstances and goals.

## Tax Planning

Our philanthropic team includes lawyers who have worked for state and federal agencies and continue to work closely with those agencies on behalf of our clients. Others have served on the board of directors or as trustees of prominent charities in New England. Our deep government and industry experience means we can help you avoid various tax and legal pitfalls and to keep the focus on your charitable mission.





### Foundation Administration and Legal Compliance

Running a foundation can be straightforward or complex. We serve in a variety of roles for our foundation clients, from consultants to Program Officers. Board minutes, program development, grant agreements, due diligence, site visits, grant tracking, reporting – all are part of our practice. You can be as involved in the nuts and bolts of foundation operations as you would like. As your "back office," we can take care of the rest, which may include program evaluation, structuring and implementing gift agreements, conducting field on interest research, overseeing meetings, ensuring legal and regulatory compliance or other tasks peculiar to your circumstances.

#### **Investment Management**

With over \$4 billion of assets under management, our investment professionals work with high net worth individuals and families, as well as foundations and other charitable entities to develop tailored investment strategies that reflect our clients' mission needs, risk tolerance, and long-term goals. If applicable, the investment strategy will take into account any specific requirements of donor restricted funds, and in each case the investment strategy will dovetail with the distribution policy.

We have no proprietary investment products to sell – rather, we invest in the best opportunities available. We believe in diversification, but do not try to match market weightings reflected in any specific benchmark or index. We believe that the important trends in the economy develop over extended time periods and we have built a long track record of impressive compounded investment returns. We can advise on and implement strategies related to impact and socially responsible investments, leveraged grants, microloans, social impact bonds.

### Maximizing Impact

Every year, Hemenway & Barnes connects foundations with opportunities to maximize the social value of charitable assets. We help foundations and similar entities distribute more than 1000 grants per year, amounting to about \$20 million per year, in a way that maximizes the impact and realizes philanthropic visions. We can work with you whether your foundation wishes to operate as anonymously as the rules governing charities will allow or desires a more public presence. Let us help your foundation align its resources and energies.





#### Contact Us

Please contact us to learn more about what we can do for you.

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