Funding

- Annual Dinner - Every November, a formal dinner is held at the Maronite Center to raise funds for the Foundation.
- Memorial Contributions
- Estate Plans

For more information on the role "The St. Maron Education Foundation" can play in helping you through your planning, contact one of the committee members listed on our home page.

1. **Estate Planning**

   Many people think estate planning is only for the very rich. But actually, the more modest your estate, the greater the need to arrange for its careful handling and disposition.

   The tools of estate planning ensure that the job is done right.

   1. A will
   2. Trusts
   3. Life insurance policies
   4. Buy-sell agreement
   5. Deferred employee benefits

   The first step of every estate plan is compiling an inventory of personal data. This includes the current value of all your assets, how they are owned, your liabilities, and names and addresses of intended estate beneficiaries.

   This is also the time to indicate those charitable institutions that are to receive a bequest in your will.

   Without a plan, your loved ones are forced to pick up the pieces of a confused financial puzzle when illness strikes or an accident occurs. We urge you to take the first step now to activate your plans for the future of your estate.

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2. **Gifts of Retirement Plan Assets**

Did you know that your retirement plan assets are facing double taxation? If you leave the assets to your heirs, you will generate "income in respect of a decedent." So not only is the amount diminished by estate taxes, but the recipient also must pay income taxes on it!

Undoubtedly, your decision of who gets the remainder depends on your family members' circumstances; their needs come first. But, if you can make other provisions for them, there is a better option for your retirement plan assets - a charitable gift. This could result in a tax savings of over 50% to you and your heirs.

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3. The Bargain Sale

The bargain sale rule in tax law applies when you sell property to a qualified charitable organization at a price below its market value. The difference between the market value and the price you get from us qualifies as a charitable contribution.

Key results:

- Income tax savings
- Capital gains tax reduction
- Receive cash promptly

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4. Gifts of Stock

If you are considering a significant charitable gift, you should look first to your stock portfolio. Often stocks have appreciated in value by so much that potential donors do not realize how much they have.

People who invested in stock at age 30 are often quite surprised by how much the stock has increased by age 70. They find it rewarding to make a substantial gift for what essentially amounts to a small expenditure in their minds - the original cost of the stock. Yet you deduct the current market value.

If you are unable to make an outright gift of stock because you still need the continued income, you can make a life-income gift. This will pay you an income, often for the rest of your life. At the end of that time, the asset is transferred to the charitable organization.

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5. Charitable Remainder Trust

There are two types of charitable remainder trusts: the annuity trust and the unitrust. The trust must first pay a flow of income to you and any other individual you name. At termination, all assets of the trust must pass to a qualified tax-exempt organization such as ours.

- **Annuity trust:** You receive a fixed sum each year, which can be expressed either as a dollar amount or as a percentage of the net fair market value initially placed in the trust. With this type of charitable remainder trust, you have the security of knowing that you receive the same dollar amount annually, no matter what the trust actually yields.
- **Unitrust:** You receive payments each year determined by multiplying a fixed percentage by the fair market value of the trust assets, as revalued each year. With the unitrust, you have a built-in hedge against inflation because if the value of the trust increases, so do your annual payments. The annual payments are guaranteed by the charity assets and you get an immediate tax deduction.

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6. The Charitable Lead Trusts

Suppose you would like to give us an income from certain assets for a number of years, and then you want the principal to be given to your family or returned to you. That describes a charitable lead trust. There are two types of lead trusts:

- **Guaranteed annuity interest:** The trust pays us a fixed dollar amount annually for the term of the trust. The trust can last for the number of years you specify or for the life of one or more individuals you name.
- **Unitrust interest:** The trust pays us an amount each year determined by multiplying the fair market value of the trust assets by a specific percentage. The amount is computed anew annually, using the current valuation of the assets. Here again, the term of the trust can be limited either by number of years or by certain lives.

In both cases, the income to the trust is a tax deduction to you on the gross basis.