



THE GIVING WILL

AN EXTREMELY SIMPLE GUIDE
TO GIVING EVERY DAY

TIMOTHY M. WEINHEIMER

To my parents Patrick and Maggie,
who gave me their absolute best.

To my husband Bret, who reminds me to Just Be.

*"Giving every day is not just an act,
it's a superpower that ignites a
chain reaction of positivity and abundance."*

- Timothy M. Weinheimer



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Preface

In 2009, a good friend and cycling buddy of mine committed suicide. When his husband called to notify me, I was driving to a wedding in Alaska (of all places) and pulled off to the side of the road. His husband wanted me to know that his spouse said I was one of the most caring people he had ever met. And wow, did that ever stick with me. I thought to myself, “That can’t really be the case, could it?”

Over the course of my lifetime—55 years at this writing—I’ve experienced similar outreaches from acquaintances, best friends, and voices from the past. Extremely humbling. And yet, each instance makes me surprisingly pensive in the moment as I reflect upon my past actions. *What did I do? What did I say? Or better yet, what triggered their desire to reach out to me now?*

A getaway vacation to Tulum, Mexico was the real spark for me to put pen to paper on *The Giving Will*. Quiet time can truly make a world of difference in clearing the mind. While walking a dusty road, stuck in my head as usual worrying about clients, team utilization goals, and a lot of other completely fabricated worry-wart thoughts, I took a moment of gratitude to reflect on the consulting practice I launched in 2016. I thought about my rewarding client and creative talent relationships I’ve enjoyed over the years, then asked

myself, “What can I do with the beautiful Weinheimer Group logo my wildly talented friend Joe designed?”



It came to me rather quickly on that heated, dusty walk that TWG must become TGW. A new mark for giving. A mark for making giving en vogue. A simple symbol for reminding and unlocking the best in each of us.

I've always believed the real golden gems in life come from human connection and a spirit of thankfulness. TGW reminds us that we all have the will to give—and that we can give daily, in every shape and size, and perhaps even give so much that we create a legacy of generosity, appreciation, and unity.

Shortly after this realization, I began experimenting with ChatGPT; while much of the focus on AI has been its threat

to jobs and even the existential risk it could potentially pose to humans, I wanted to use AI for good. A conversation with ChatGPT about gratitude and daily giving eventually evolved into what you'll read in the pages of this book.

That's right—this book is largely written by artificial intelligence!

What Is The Giving Will?

The Giving Will is a new kind of will which encourages individuals to support and give back to their local community in a meaningful way while still alive. The Giving Will is a simple reminder to foster an atmosphere of generosity and unity.

The Giving Will is unique from a Living Will in that it is not a legal document and is instead an intention to be used by individuals who are still living and in good health. Unlike a Living Will, which deals primarily with health care decisions, The Giving Will is a way for individuals to show their dedication to their local community and use their resources to make a meaningful and lasting impact on it.

The Giving Will changes lives by empowering individuals to live each day in a state of giving. It encourages individuals to be mindful and intentional with their financial and nonfinancial resources, improving the world on a micro and macro level through sharing and beneficence. Spurring

individuals to provide resources to their local community allows them to demonstrate and deepen their commitment and connections and inspires larger conversations and broader visions for how their lives and contributions can shape the future of their everyday surroundings.

The Giving Will is not just about testamentary giving, but is instead an intention to create an atmosphere of altruism and collective communal uplift.

Why Now Is the Time to Give

Unfortunately, charitable giving has been trending downward—according to the Association of Fundraising Professionals, there was an 18 percent decline in new donors in 2022, and the dollar amount of donations these donors give is also decreasing. This decline is why The Giving Will exists; as a reminder that intentional giving is not only needed, but rewarding for both recipient and giver.

So why is giving on the decline? Reasons include:

Onlooker effect: We often assume that someone else will step up and be a hero. Why can't that hero be us? The onlooker effect has also led to a top-heavy dependence on the wealthy to fund charitable organizations. While it's certainly good news that those with the means are being charitable, in return big-ticket donors get an outsized influence on these organizations and their priorities.

Fear of scams: With the rise of online fundraising platforms, there has been an increase in scams targeting individuals' charitable intentions. This may turn off some people from giving altogether as they approach every ask with skepticism.

Personal financial struggles: In times of economic hardships, people tend to focus on their own financial stability rather than giving to others. This is understandable, but as you'll see in *The Giving Will*, financial donations are only one of the many ways you can give to others.

Donor fatigue: Individuals may feel overwhelmed by the constant stream of requests for donations and eventually grow tired of giving. They may also feel that their donations aren't making a noticeable difference in their community.

Procrastination: Many people plan to give, but never get around to it. It often takes a tragedy or personal connection for individuals to finally make a donation.

Increasing "inward gaze": Social media is ostensibly about connection and community, but for many, it has encouraged self-centeredness and disconnection from the real world. This focus on the self can lead to a decrease in charitable giving.

We are all busy people, trying to juggle work, family, and personal commitments. It can be overwhelming to think

about adding another responsibility, like charitable giving, to our already full plates. Fortunately, the power of giving is reciprocal. There is no better time than now to start living your best life and nurturing your legacy.

The Giving Will is, well, for the living, and not the dead.

Chapter 1

Introduction to The Giving Will

Welcome to The Giving Will, a concept that will transform your life and unlock the true potential of generosity.

The Giving Will is a philosophy that revolves around the idea that giving is not just an act, but a way of life. It is about cultivating a mindset of abundance, gratitude, and selflessness. Giving has the potential to transform not only the lives of others but also our own sense of purpose and fulfillment. In this book, we will explore different aspects of The Giving Will and guide you on a journey to discover the immense joy and fulfillment that comes from giving.

The Power of Giving

The act of giving is a fundamental expression of our humanity. It has the power to make a difference, both in the lives of others and in our own lives. Giving enables us to connect with others, build relationships, and foster a sense of community. It can create a ripple effect, inspiring others to give and creating a positive cycle of generosity.

The Joy of Giving

Giving is not solely an act of responsibility or obligation; it is a source of joy and fulfillment. When we give, we experience a profound sense of purpose and meaning. Generosity allows us to transcend our own concerns, shift our focus towards the needs of others, and experience the happiness that comes from making a positive impact.

The Giving Journey

The Giving Will invites readers to embark on a journey towards a life of giving. This journey is not a one-size-fits-all experience; rather, it is an individualized exploration of what giving means to each person and how they can make a meaningful difference in the world. Throughout this book, readers will learn practical strategies, gain insights, and discover resources to support them in their giving journey.

A Guidebook for Giving

The Giving Will is designed to be a practical guidebook, providing step-by-step instructions and exercises to help readers develop a customized giving plan. This plan will align their values, resources, and passions with impactful giving strategies. It will empower readers to make a difference in areas that are meaningful to them and create a lasting legacy of giving.

Chapter 2

Understanding Generosity

Generosity is more than just giving money or material possessions. It is a state of mind and an attitude towards life. To truly understand generosity, we must first recognize that abundance is not solely determined by what we possess, but rather by the kindness and compassion we demonstrate towards others. In this chapter, we will explore the meaning of generosity, the various forms it can take, and the positive impact it can have on both givers and recipients.

Defining Generosity

Generosity is more than just giving money or material possessions. It is a mindset, a way of thinking and being that involves a genuine concern for the well-being of others. Generosity encompasses acts of kindness, empathy, compassion, and selflessness. It is about giving not only tangible resources but also intangible gifts such as time, attention, support, and love.

Forms of Generosity

Generosity can take many different forms, and it is important to recognize and appreciate the diversity of ways in which we can give.

Some forms of generosity include:

Financial generosity: When people think of giving, they most often think of financial generosity—giving money or material possessions to others through charitable donations, supporting causes and organizations, or providing financial assistance to individuals in need.

Time generosity: This form of generosity involves giving our time and energy to others, whether through volunteering, mentoring, or simply being present for someone in need.

Emotional generosity: Emotional generosity is as simple as listening, providing a shoulder to lean on, or offering words of encouragement. Any time you offer emotional support, empathy, and understanding to others, you're sharing emotional generosity.

Knowledge generosity: This form of generosity involves sharing our knowledge, skills, and expertise with others. It can include teaching, mentoring, or offering guidance and advice.

Creative generosity: Creative generosity means using our creativity and talents in a way that benefits others—creating art, writing, performing, or any other form of creative expression that inspires and uplifts those around us.

The Impact of Generosity

Generosity has a profound impact on both givers and recipients. For givers, it offers a sense of purpose, meaning, and fulfillment. Generosity allows us to connect with others, build relationships, and foster a sense of community. It can improve our mental and emotional well-being, reduce stress, and increase our overall happiness. Generosity also brings about a sense of gratitude, helping us appreciate what we have and recognize the blessings in our own lives.

For recipients, generosity can be life-changing. Acts of kindness and support provide comfort, hope, and encouragement. They can help individuals overcome challenges, improve their quality of life, and inspire them to pay it forward. Generosity can also foster a sense of belonging and inclusion, reminding recipients that they are valued and cared for.

Cultivating a Generous Mindset

Cultivating a generous mindset involves shifting our perspective and embracing the values of giving. It requires

us to practice gratitude, recognize the needs of others, and find ways to make a positive impact.

To cultivate a generous mindset, we can:

Practice gratitude: Practicing gratitude means becoming more aware of our blessings and developing a greater appreciation for what we have. Gratitude allows us to recognize the abundance in our lives and motivates us to share our resources with others.

Develop empathy: Empathy is the ability to understand and share the feelings of others. By developing empathy, we can better recognize the needs and struggles of those around us. This understanding prompts us to act with kindness and compassion.

Start small: Generosity doesn't have to be grand gestures or acts of great sacrifice. We can start small, with simple acts of kindness and generosity. By starting small, we build momentum and pave the way for greater, more impactful acts of giving.

Practice self-care: It is important to remember that we cannot pour from an empty cup. Taking care of our own physical, mental, and emotional well-being allows us to be more generous and present for others. Self-care is not selfish; it is a necessary component of cultivating a generous mindset.

Generosity is more than just giving money; it is a mindset, a way of thinking and being that involves a genuine concern for the well-being of others. Understanding generosity allows us to cultivate a generous mindset and embrace the values of giving. The subsequent chapters will delve deeper into practical strategies for cultivating generosity and creating a giving plan.

Chapter 3

Creating a Gratitude Practice

Gratitude is the cornerstone of The Giving Will. When we express gratitude, we acknowledge the blessings in our lives and develop a sense of appreciation for what we have. This chapter will guide you in creating a gratitude practice to cultivate positivity, shift your focus towards abundance, and enhance your ability to give selflessly.

The Power of Gratitude

Gratitude is more than just saying "thank you" when someone does something kind for us. It is a mindset and a way of living that involves appreciating the people, experiences, and things in our lives. Research has shown that practicing gratitude not only enhances our well-being, but also positively impacts our relationships, health, and overall happiness.

When we shift our focus from what is lacking in our lives to what we are grateful for, we begin to see things from a different perspective. We become more aware of the abundance around us, which in turn promotes a sense of contentment and fulfillment. This sense of fulfillment has a ripple effect in our lives, as it allows us to show up more fully and authentically in our relationships and communities.

Cultivating a Gratitude Practice

Creating a gratitude practice doesn't have to be complicated or time-consuming. It can be as simple as taking a few minutes each day to reflect on the things you are grateful for.

Here are some practical ways to incorporate gratitude into your daily routine:

Keep a gratitude journal: Set aside a few minutes each day to write down three things you are grateful for. It can be as small as a kind word from a stranger or as significant as a major achievement. Writing them down not only helps you remember but also allows you to savor the positive emotions associated with those experiences.

Practice gratitude meditation: Find a quiet space, sit in a comfortable position, and close your eyes. Take a few deep breaths to center yourself and then think about three things you are grateful for. Visualize these things and feel the gratitude in your heart. Stay in this state for a few minutes, soaking in the positive emotions.

Express gratitude to others: Take the time to thank the people in your life who have made a positive impact. Write a heartfelt note or send a thoughtful email expressing your gratitude. This act of appreciation not only strengthens your relationships but also brings joy to the recipients.

Create a gratitude jar: Find a jar and some small slips of paper. Each day, write down one thing you are grateful for and put it in the jar. Over time, the jar will fill up with positive experiences and serve as a visual reminder of the abundance in your life.

Practice mindfulness: Engage in daily activities with a sense of gratitude. Whether it's enjoying a cup of coffee or going for a walk, be fully present and appreciate the moment. Mindfulness allows us to slow down, savor the simple pleasures, and cultivate a deep sense of gratitude.

The key to creating a gratitude practice is consistency. Choose one or two methods that resonate with you and make them a daily habit. As you do so, you will notice a shift in your mindset, and giving will become a natural extension of your gratitude.

Chapter 4

The Benefits of Giving

Giving is not just beneficial for those on the receiving end; it also brings immense joy and fulfillment to the giver. Research has shown that giving activates the pleasure centers of the brain and generates a sense of happiness and purpose. In this chapter, we will explore the various physical, emotional, and psychological benefits of giving, and discover how it can enhance our overall well-being.

The Science of Giving

Giving has a profound effect on our brain and body. Research has shown that people who engage in regular acts of kindness experience higher levels of subjective well-being and life satisfaction. When we give, we tap into our innate human nature to connect and make a positive impact on others, which ultimately leads to greater fulfillment and a sense of purpose.

This sense of purpose and accomplishment has been found to increase our own self-worth and self-esteem. Giving has been linked to increased happiness, decreased depression and anxiety, and improved overall mental health.

The benefits of giving extend beyond our emotional well-being. Giving has also been linked to better physical health. Studies have shown that individuals who engage in regular acts of kindness have lower blood pressure, reduced risk of cardiovascular disease, and improved overall health outcomes.

When we engage in acts of kindness and generosity, our brains release oxytocin, a hormone that promotes feelings of connection, love, and happiness. This "helper's high" not only makes us feel good but also has physical benefits such as reducing stress and boosting the immune system. Giving not only enhances our overall well-being but also has a ripple effect on all areas of our lives.

Giving and Relationships

Giving is often associated with building and strengthening relationships. Whether it's through acts of service, thoughtful gifts, or simply being there for someone in need, giving creates bonds and fosters a sense of connection. When we give to others, we experience a deep sense of empathy and compassion, which strengthens our understanding and connection with others.

Moreover, giving can also enhance our romantic relationships. Engaging in acts of kindness towards our partners not only strengthens the bond between us but also promotes a healthier and more fulfilling relationship.

Research has shown that couples who engage in regular acts of kindness towards each other experience increased relationship satisfaction and longevity.

Cultivating a Culture of Giving

Creating a culture of giving involves fostering an environment where generosity is celebrated and encouraged. By promoting giving in our families, workplaces, and communities, we can inspire others to embrace a spirit of generosity and create lasting positive change.

One way to cultivate a culture of giving is by leading by example. When we demonstrate acts of kindness and generosity ourselves, others are more likely to follow suit. Additionally, we can encourage and support philanthropic initiatives within our communities, such as volunteering, donating to charitable organizations, and participating in fundraising events.

Lastly, creating a culture of giving involves recognizing and celebrating the acts of kindness and generosity happening around us. By acknowledging and appreciating the efforts of others, we inspire a sense of community and inspire more people to give.

Chapter 5

Mapping Out Your Giving Plan

To truly maximize the impact of your generosity, it is essential to have a well-thought-out giving plan. This chapter will help you identify your passions, values, and the causes you wish to support. We will explore different giving strategies, such as monetary donations, volunteering, and mentorship, and guide you in creating a personalized giving plan that aligns with your values and goals.

Identifying Your Values

Before you can begin giving, it's important to identify your values and what matters most to you. Ask yourself what causes or issues you feel passionate about. Is it education? Health and wellness? Environmental conservation? Animal rights? Social justice? By understanding your values, you can align your giving with what truly matters to you.

Consider making a list of the top three to five values that resonate with you. Then, do some research on organizations or projects that align with those values. Look for transparency and accountability in the organizations you choose to support, and make sure their mission and goals align with your own.

Setting Goals

Once you have identified your values and determined the causes you want to support, it's time to set goals for your giving. Setting goals will help you stay focused and measure your impact over time.

Start by setting short-term goals. These can be specific giving amounts or targets you want to achieve within the next year. For example, you may decide to give \$100 to a local food bank or volunteer for a certain number of hours at a community center. Setting short-term goals allows you to make immediate contributions and see the impact of your giving sooner rather than later.

Next, set long-term goals. These goals may be more broad and involve larger amounts or ongoing commitments. For example, you may decide to start a scholarship fund or establish a recurring monthly donation to a non-profit organization. Long-term goals help you think about the legacy you want to leave behind and the lasting impact you can have.

Remember to be flexible with your goals as circumstances may change or new opportunities may arise. It's important to regularly evaluate and adjust your goals as needed.

Determining the Best Ways to Give

There are countless ways to give back, and it's important to find the ones that align with your values and goals. Here are a few options to consider:

Monetary: Financial donations are one of the most common ways to give. They involve giving money to an organization or cause. You can make one-time donations or create a schedule of recurring donations. Financial donations can be as small or as large as you want, based on your budget and goals.

When making financial donations, consider giving to organizations with a proven track record of efficiently using their funds and making a significant impact. Look for organizations that are transparent about their finances and share information about how your donation will be used.

Volunteerism: Volunteering is another powerful way to give back. By donating your time and skills, you can make a direct impact in your community. Consider volunteering at organizations or events that align with your values and interests. This could involve tutoring students, serving meals at a homeless shelter, or participating in a beach cleanup.

When considering volunteer opportunities, make sure to consider your available time and skill set. Find volunteer

opportunities that are realistic and enjoyable for you, as this will increase your likelihood of continuing to give your time in the long run.

In-Kind: In-kind donations involve donating goods or services instead of money. This could include donating clothing, household items, or food to a local shelter, or offering your professional skills pro bono to a non-profit organization. In-kind donations can be a meaningful way to give back, especially if you have items or skills that can benefit others.

Consider reaching out to local organizations to see if they have a wish list or specific needs. By fulfilling those needs, you can make a tangible impact and provide resources that are essential to their work.

Advocacy: Advocacy and awareness involve using your voice to speak up for causes or issues that matter to you. This could include writing letters to legislators, participating in protests or demonstrations, or sharing information on social media to raise awareness.

Advocacy and awareness can be powerful tools for change, as they help bring attention to important issues and shape public opinion. Consider ways you can use your platform or resources to advocate for causes you believe in, and never underestimate the impact of your voice.

Chapter 6

Creative Ways to Give Back

There are countless creative ways to contribute to your community and make a difference in the lives of others. This chapter will inspire you with innovative and unconventional ways to give, such as starting a social enterprise, organizing fundraising events, or using your skills and talents to support a cause. We will explore how to think outside the box and find unique ways to contribute to the greater good.

Pro Bono Work

If you have professional skills or expertise, consider offering your services pro bono to organizations that can benefit from your knowledge. This could include providing legal advice, graphic design services, marketing consultation, or even offering coaching or mentoring to individuals or groups. Utilizing your skills to support nonprofits or individuals in need delivers a meaningful impact without a financial contribution.

Volunteering

Volunteering is a powerful way to give back and make a difference in your community. Identify local organizations or

causes that resonate with you and inquire about volunteer opportunities. This could involve serving meals at a homeless shelter, tutoring children, assisting at an animal rescue center, or participating in environmental cleanup projects. By donating your time and skills, you can directly contribute to the well-being of others and create a positive change.

Donating Goods

Instead of disposing of unwanted items, consider donating them to local charities or organizations in need. Clothes, furniture, household items, and even unused toiletries can find a new home and make a difference in someone's life. Additionally, you can organize donation drives in your community to gather items that can be distributed to those in need. The benefit of donating goods is that not only do you get to declutter your space and reduce landfill waste, you also contribute to the well-being of others.

Random Acts of Kindness

Small acts of kindness can have a profound impact on someone's day and contribute to a culture of giving. Look for opportunities to perform random acts of kindness in your daily life. Pay for someone's meal at a restaurant, leave a positive note for a stranger, or offer to help someone in need. These acts can be done anonymously or openly, depending on your comfort level. Spreading kindness

creates a ripple effect of positivity and inspires others to do the same.

Skills-Based Giving

Similar to pro bono work, skills-based giving involves using your talents and abilities to support charitable causes. This could include teaching a class or workshop, leading a support group, or offering your artistic skills to create murals or art installations for a nonprofit organization. Sharing your unique talents allows you to contribute to causes that are important to you in a way that aligns with your passions and skills.

Remember, giving back is not a one-size-fits-all approach. It's about finding ways to contribute that align with your interests, strengths, and resources. Embrace creativity and think outside the box to make a meaningful impact in your community and beyond. By exploring different avenues of giving, you can discover new ways to channel your generosity and inspire others to do the same.

Chapter 7

Creating a Community of Giving

Building a community of like-minded individuals who believe in the power of giving is essential for creating lasting change. This chapter will guide you on how to surround yourself with people who share your values and aspirations. We will explore ways to create a network of giving that amplifies the impact of your generosity and fosters a culture of philanthropy.

Building Connections

One of the most important aspects of creating a community of giving is building connections with like-minded individuals. Look for local organizations or groups that align with your giving interests and values, or giving circles and community foundations that bring individuals together to pool resources and make collective grants. Attend events, meetings, or workshops to connect with others who share your passion for making a difference. Joining forces with others who share your values and goals can amplify the impact of your giving and lead to more strategic and effective philanthropy.

Collaboration and Partnerships

Another way to create a community of giving is through collaboration and partnerships. Reach out to existing organizations, businesses, or individuals that are already engaged in charitable work and explore opportunities to work together. By pooling resources, knowledge, and expertise, you can achieve greater impact and reach more people in need. This could involve joint fundraising efforts, volunteering together, or organizing community initiatives.

Spreading Awareness

One of the key components of building a community of giving is spreading awareness about the causes and organizations that you are passionate about. Utilize social media platforms, community newsletters, local newspapers, or even start a blog to share your experiences, insights, and information about the issues you care about. By raising awareness, you can inspire others to get involved and create a ripple effect of giving in your community.

Hosting Events

Organizing events centered around giving is a great way to bring people together and foster a sense of community. This could include fundraisers, charity runs, blood drives, or even small gatherings like potlucks or movie nights focused on raising awareness about specific causes. Creating

opportunities for people to come together and learn more about giving sparks conversations, builds connections, and inspires others to take action.

Engaging Youth and Families

Encouraging younger generations to get involved in giving is essential for the sustainability of a community of giving. Offer opportunities for youth and families to participate in volunteering or fundraising activities. Foster an environment that values empathy, compassion, and social responsibility. By instilling these values in younger generations, you are not only creating a stronger community of giving today but also ensuring a bright future of generosity and altruism.

Chapter 8

Making Your Gifts Last

Creating a lasting impact through your generosity requires thoughtful consideration and strategic decision-making. This chapter will provide insights on assessing the effectiveness of your gifts and ensuring they have a lasting impact. We will explore ways to evaluate organizations and projects, and provide resources to help you make informed decisions about where to direct your giving.

Research and Due Diligence

Before making any donation, it's important to conduct research and due diligence on the organization you plan to support. Look for organizations with a strong track record, transparent financials, and evidence of impact. Consider checking websites such as Charity Navigator or Guidestar for ratings and reviews of non-profit organizations.

Additionally, consider reaching out to the organization directly and asking questions about their programs, outcomes, and accountability measures. Legitimate organizations will be transparent and eager to provide you with the information you need to make an informed decision.

Conducting thorough research helps direct your gifts towards organizations that are reputable, efficient, and aligned with your values.

Evaluating and Adapting

Regularly evaluating and adapting your giving strategy is essential to ensure that your gifts continue to make a meaningful impact. As time goes on, organizations may change their focus or new opportunities may arise that better align with your values and goals.

Consider setting aside time each year to reflect on your giving and reassess your goals and priorities. Ask yourself if your current donations are still aligned with what matters most to you. Are there other organizations or projects that have emerged that you want to support? Are there any changes to your financial situation that may impact your giving ability?

Regularly evaluating and adapting your strategy helps ensure that your gifts continue to reflect your passions and make a lasting impact.

Planning for the Future

Finally, consider how you can plan for the future and ensure that your giving continues even after you're gone. Legacy planning involves making decisions about how your assets

and philanthropy will be managed and distributed after your passing.

Consult with a financial advisor or an estate planning attorney to explore options such as setting up a donor-advised fund, creating a charitable trust, or including charitable provisions in your will. Make your wishes clear to your spouse, parents, children, siblings, and trusted friends as well. By planning for the future, you can ensure that your giving legacy lives on and continues to make a difference in the causes you care about.

Remember, the giving journey is a personal one, and there is no one-size-fits-all approach. Your giving plan should be tailored to your passions, resources, and circumstances. By mapping out your giving plan and making your gifts last, you can create a lasting impact and leave a legacy of giving.

Chapter 9

Your Legacy of Giving

As we come to the end of our journey in exploring the power of giving, we now turn our attention to something truly special: your legacy of giving. What will you leave behind as a testament to your generosity and compassion?

Creating a lasting legacy of giving can be one of the most meaningful and fulfilling endeavors of your life. It is an opportunity to make a lasting impact on the causes and communities you care about, even after you are gone. Your legacy of giving is not only a reflection of your values, but also a way to inspire and motivate future generations to continue the legacy of generosity.

Defining Your Legacy

The first step in creating your legacy of giving is to define what it means to you. What are the values and causes that are most important to you? What impact do you want to have on the world?

Take some time to reflect on these questions and consider what kind of legacy you want to leave behind. Write down your thoughts and ideas. It could be a simple sentence or a detailed vision statement – whatever feels right to you.

Estate Planning

Once you have defined your legacy, it is important to consider how you can ensure that it becomes a reality. Estate planning is a crucial aspect of creating a lasting legacy of giving.

Consult with an estate planning attorney to establish a plan for the distribution of your assets. Consider including charitable giving provisions in your will, trust, or other estate planning documents. This will ensure that your wishes regarding charitable giving are carried out after your passing.

Establishing a Donor-Advised Fund

Another powerful tool for creating a legacy of giving is establishing a donor-advised fund. A donor-advised fund is a charitable giving account that allows you to contribute funds and then recommend grants to your favorite charitable organizations over time.

By establishing a donor-advised fund, you can involve your loved ones in the process of giving and continue your legacy of generosity together. This will engage and inspire future generations to carry on the tradition of giving.

Engaging Your Family

Involving your family in your giving journey is a wonderful way to pass on your values and inspire future generations. Start by having conversations with your loved ones about the causes and organizations that are important to you.

Encourage your family members to get involved in charitable activities and volunteer their time and talents. Consider establishing a family foundation or charitable trust to formalize your family's philanthropic efforts.

Engaging your family in giving will create a legacy that will endure beyond your lifetime and also instill a sense of purpose and compassion in your loved ones.

Chapter 10

Final Reflections

As we reach the final chapter of this book, take a moment to reflect on your journey with The Giving Will. You have learned about the transformative power of generosity, cultivated gratitude, and discovered the joy of giving. Now, it is time to continue on this path of selflessness and create a world rooted in kindness and compassion. Let The Giving Will be your guiding light as you embark on a life filled with purpose, compassion, and generosity.

Gratitude

Throughout this book, we discussed the importance of gratitude in cultivating a giving mindset. Take a moment to reflect on the gratitude practice you established and the impact it had on your life.

Consider continuing this practice, even after you have finished reading this book. Remember to express gratitude for the opportunities you have to give, as well as the impact your giving has had on others.

Impact

Reflect on the impact your giving has had on the causes and communities you care about. Celebrate the difference you have made in the lives of others. Remember that even the smallest acts of kindness can have a ripple effect and create lasting change.

Continuous Learning

Giving is a journey of continuous learning and growth. As you continue on your path of giving, remember to stay open to new ideas, perspectives, and opportunities. Seek out ways to deepen your understanding of the issues and causes you care about.

Inspiring Others

Your journey of giving has the power to inspire and motivate others. Share your experiences and insights with friends, family, and colleagues. Encourage them to embark on their own journeys of giving and create their own legacies of compassion and generosity.

Your Giving Will

Finally, remember that the power of giving extends far beyond the pages of this book. The Giving Will resides

within each and every one of us, waiting to be awakened and harnessed for the greater good.

Continue to nurture and cultivate this power within you. Remember that your giving can be as simple as a smile, a kind word, or a helping hand. Every act of kindness matters and has the potential to change lives.

Thank you for embarking on this journey of giving with me. I hope that The Giving Will has inspired and empowered you to embrace the power of generosity and create a lasting legacy of compassion and kindness. Sign The Giving Will Pledge and together, let us continue to make the world a better place, one act of giving at a time.

The Giving Will Pledge

I, _____ do hereby pledge to live each day in a state of giving. I recognize that giving back to my local community is a meaningful way to make a lasting impact. I am committed to doing what I can with my resources, both material and non-material, to foster a culture of generosity and unity.

Giving is important for humanity because it allows individuals to express appreciation and gratitude while simultaneously helping those in need and boosting their own health and happiness. Regularly giving back to our communities creates a ripple effect of positivity, inspiring others to give too and strengthening our community's sense of connectedness. Our actions as individuals create a collective impact and shape our collective future.

I take this pledge to live each day in a state of giving and honor the commitment to leave a lasting legacy of purpose and intention for my community.

Signed,

Date:



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Timothy M. Weinheimer is a digital transformation specialist and the author of the eBook *The Robot Apocalypse: How Brands Can Survive and Thrive in the Age of AI*.

Tim's marketing experience covers a broad range of strategic campaign development with Fortune 500 companies, association, government and nonprofit clientele including *Cleveland Clinic*, *AT&T*, *ConAgra Foods*, *The Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR)*, and *The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services*.

Growing up in a small town in Texas where community connections were paramount helped shape Tim's philosophy on the significance of giving. Equally important, though, was the influence of his late father, whose gentle nature and giving spirit created a lasting impression and a desire to create a culture of giving in both his personal and professional life.

Tim and his husband Bret enjoy 'just being' in south Austin, Texas. Over the years, Tim has cycled, run, or completed an estimated 20,000 miles for charitable sporting events, and hopes to inspire readers to use their own talents, knowledge, and time to help others.