

# Questions and Answers about the AHRC New York City Foundation Community Trust I for Persons with Disabilities

## **Q What is the AHRC New York City Foundation Community Trust I for Persons with Disabilities?**

**A** The AHRC Community Trust allows you to provide financial resources for a loved one who has an intellectual or developmental disability, without affecting that person's eligibility for government benefits.

A parent, relative or any other person may establish an account within the Trust and designate a disabled loved one as beneficiary. Income and principal in that account are available to the beneficiary for expenditures not covered by government benefits.

## **Q What types of expenditures may be made with funds from the Trust?**

**A** Funds from the Trust may be used for your loved one's care, comfort, welfare, education or training, so long as these expenditures are over and above benefits provided by government sources.

Examples include a vacation trip, a home computer, special medical equipment or support, gifts or any other luxury items or expenses.

## **Q How will my loved one access these funds?**

**A** Your loved one's parent, guardian or advocate will request a disbursement from the Trust for a particular purpose. The Trustees are legally bound to act in the best interest of your loved one and to ensure that disbursements from the Trust do not affect your loved one's eligibility for government entitlements.

## **Q Who are the Trustees of the AHRC New York City Foundation Community Trust I for Persons with Disabilities?**

**A** The five current Trustees include the Chairman of the AHRC New York City Foundation Board and four people who are parents or siblings of people with developmental disabilities.

## **Q How are the funds in the AHRC Foundation Community Trust invested?**

**A** The funds are invested in a balanced portfolio in accordance with the Trust's investment policy, which is established by the Trustees. Reliance Trust Company is the custodian and investment manager of the Trust.

## **Q What happens to funds remaining in the account at the end of my loved one's lifetime?**

**A** When a beneficiary dies, funds remaining in his or her account are withdrawn from the Trust and given to the AHRC New York City Foundation to benefit programs and services for children and adults who have intellectual and developmental disabilities.

## **Q Will I receive a tax deduction when I establish an account in the AHRC Foundation Community Trust?**

**A** No. Because the funds are for the benefit of a particular individual, a contribution to the AHRC Foundation Community Trust does not constitute a charitable contribution for tax purposes.

If you wish to make a tax-deductible gift to the AHRC New York City Foundation, there are other options available, and you may call the Foundation Director at 212-780-2682 to discuss them.

## **Q How do I establish an account within the AHRC Foundation Community Trust?**

**A** Please call the Foundation Director at 212-780-2682. You will be provided with a sponsor agreement, which allows you to establish a trust account by making an initial contribution of at least \$10,000. You may also access this document at [www.ahrcnycfoundation.org](http://www.ahrcnycfoundation.org).

Your contribution may be in cash, or it may be in the form of securities, annuities or life insurance policies. You may also make a bequest to the Trust in your will.

## **Q May I add to the account in the future?**

**A** Yes, you may add to the account at any time and in any amount.

## **Q Should I contribute to the AHRC Foundation Community Trust, or should I establish my own special needs trust for a loved one?**

**A** This decision depends upon your particular circumstances and should be made in consultation with your legal and financial advisers. Many families trust the AHRC New York City Foundation and find that the Foundation's Community Trust meets their needs and is convenient and cost-effective.

Many financial institutions have minimum financial requirements to establish a trust, usually several hundred thousand dollars. The AHRC Foundation Community Trust can accommodate families who wish to contribute \$10,000 or more.

Also, many families do not have an individual to designate as trustee to carry out the fiduciary responsibilities associated with a trust.

provide financial resources  
for a loved one  
without affecting eligibility for government benefits



recreation and  
accomplishment



education  
and nurturing



friendships  
and employment



Questions  
and  
Answers  
about the  
AHRC  
New York City  
Foundation  
Community  
Trust I for  
Persons  
with  
Disabilities

Our mission is to improve the lives of children and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

- We support programs such as
- camping and recreation
  - job-training and employment opportunities
  - family-style community residences
  - preschool, elementary and secondary education
  - health care
  - legal assistance



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Foundation Director: 212-780-2682  
[www.ahrcnycfoundation.org](http://www.ahrcnycfoundation.org)

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