Working with a Philanthropic Advisor

2013 Philanthropy Learning Exchange

September 19, 2013
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Director, Client Service

Rachel is responsible for the management of client relationships for individual, trust, and foundation accounts. She works with individual and family group clients on financial and estate planning and advises clients concerning fiduciary and related issues. Rachel also advises and works with multiple family foundations to achieve their philanthropic aspirations.

Prior to joining Market Street, Rachel practiced law in Boston, Massachusetts, first with Goodwin Procter LLP and then with Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP. As an attorney, Rachel represented and advised clients with respect to myriad litigation and business matters. Rachel also gained experience as a law clerk to the Honorable F. Dennis Saylor, IV, of the federal district court in Massachusetts.

During her undergraduate work at Cornell University, Rachel spent a year studying abroad at Oxford University. After receiving her B.S. from Cornell, she attended Harvard Law School and earned her J.D., graduating cum laude. Rachel has broad experience in family foundations and philanthropy, currently serving as President of the Grantmakers Forum of New York. She also is an officer and director of The Triangle Fund, a family foundation serving a three-county area in New York, and has been a grants panelist for the Community Foundation of Elmira-Corning and the Finger Lakes.

Rachel is a member of the Trusts and Estates section of the New York State Bar Association and has advised Corning Community College on its planning giving program. Rachel has written articles and made presentations to donors and advisors on topics and issues around family legacy through philanthropy, most recently for the Financial Research Associates Family Office Executive Summit in May 2013.
Seven Questions

1. Who is a philanthropic advisor?
2. Do you need a philanthropic advisor?
3. Do you want support for your philanthropy?
4. Does your advisor benefit too?
5. What might the philanthropic advisory process look like?
6. How can you find a good philanthropic advisor?
7. How can you get more help?
1. Who is a philanthropic advisor?

One definition: One who is passionate about helping another pursue his or her philanthropic passions.

*This is not an industry term! No formal credentialing required!*

Under this definition, philanthropic advisors can include:

- Wealth advisors
- Private client advisors
- Legal advisors
- CPAs, tax advisors
- Someone with deep community knowledge and not-for-profit involvement, such as community foundation personnel
- Philanthropy consultants
2. Do you need a philanthropic advisor?

Yes!

Many clients give, and give substantially.³,⁵

### Charitable Giving by Family Net Worth⁵

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Net Worth</th>
<th>Annual Amount Given to Charity (rounded)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1m – $5m</td>
<td>$13,113</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$5m – $10m</td>
<td>$65,780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$10m – $20m</td>
<td>$211,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20m – $50m</td>
<td>$488,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Why?** Philanthropic advisory services:
- Provide necessary information how much you can give and still meet financial goals
- Identify tax efficiencies in giving, helping you expand the size of the charitable pie
- Support your legacy and values sharing with your children and grandchildren
- Improve the your experience with your advisors and your philanthropy
2. Do you need a philanthropic advisor?

There may be “trigger points” that accelerate the need:

- Sale of business
- Receipt of an inheritance
- In final earned income years before retirement
- New marriage/partnership or dissolution of a marriage/partnership
- Decision to wind down a legacy family foundation
- Overwhelmed by “asks” from colleagues, community, churches
- Express interest in involving children, grandchildren in giving
- When giving moves beyond annual gift amounts to “major” gift amounts
- Want a new business positioned as a good corporate citizen
- Entering a new community and need culture/protocol/etiquette guidance
- Leaving a community and want to be aware of giving opportunities
3. Do you want support for their philanthropy?

Yes! In my experience...

- Many clients view their financial plans and their charitable plans as related.$^3,^7$
- Many clients want to be more strategic about their giving. They are trending away from ad hoc check writing and toward strategically addressing their charitable interests.$^3$
- Many clients want advice about inheritance and “how much is enough” for heirs.

Is this true for you?
3a. When should I build out the philanthropic advisory team?

Further expertise may be needed to meet your needs and wants.

If so, you might need a philanthropic advisory team.
4. Does your advisor benefit too?

- Clients are becoming more and more aware of their needs.
- There is often a disconnect between the needs of clients and services their advisors are providing.
- Unmet Need = Opportunity for Advisors to...
  - Demonstrate their expertise and resourcefulness
  - Connect with the next generation of wealth owners
  - Deepen their relationships with you, increasing loyalty
  - Obtain referrals to new clients
5. What might the philanthropic advisory process look like?

1. Initiation

2. Exploring Motivation & Goals

3. Approaches

4. Detailing a Plan

5. Assessing Impact & Enrichment

5. What might a philanthropic advisory process look like?

This process may proceed in 5 steps or phases:

1. Initiation
2. Motivation & Goals
3. Approaches
4. Detailing a Plan
5. Impact and Enrichment
5. What might a philanthropic advisory process look like?

1. Past Giving Analysis

2. Ask Foundational Questions
   - *Why are you giving?*
   - *What do you want to achieve?*
   - *What is the most satisfying charitable gift you ever made?*
   - *How do you think change will happen?*
   - *How will you assess progress?*
   - *Who will join you?*
   - *See questionnaire example*
## Charitable Contributions History/Plan (Sample)
### Mrs. Anderson

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>171 Cedar Arts Center</td>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>Annual Campaign</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corning Museum of Glass</td>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>Capital Campaign</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
<td>$1,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Orchestra of the Southern Finger Lakes</td>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>Program Support</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$800</td>
<td>$800</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$800</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rockwell Museum</td>
<td>Arts</td>
<td>Program Support</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
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<td>Capital Campaign</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$500</td>
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<tr>
<td>All Saints Academy</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Annual Campaign</td>
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<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cornell University</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Annual Campaign</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
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<td>Keuka College</td>
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<td>Southeast Steuben County Library</td>
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<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$3,300</td>
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<td>Cornell Lab of Ornithology</td>
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<td>Capital Campaign</td>
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<td>$230</td>
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<tr>
<td>Finger Lakes Land Trust</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>$2,000</td>
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<td>$2,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Catholic Charities</td>
<td>Health/Human Services</td>
<td>Program Support</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$500</td>
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<td>$500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Foundation</td>
<td>Health/Human Services</td>
<td>Program Support</td>
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<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
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<td>$3,000</td>
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<td>Corning Meals on Wheels</td>
<td>Health/Human Services</td>
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<td>Fund for Women - Community Foundation</td>
<td>Health/Human Services</td>
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<td>$500</td>
<td>$500</td>
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<td>$500</td>
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<td>Habitat for Humanity</td>
<td>Health/Human Services</td>
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<td>$15,000</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health Ministry of the Southern Tier</td>
<td>Health/Human Services</td>
<td>Program Support</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Way</td>
<td>Health/Human Services</td>
<td>Annual Campaign</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corning YMCA</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Capital Campaign</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Red Cross</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Annual Campaign</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Various Contributions under $250</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Annual Campaign</td>
<td>$330</td>
<td>$420</td>
<td>$550</td>
<td>$385</td>
<td>$300</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$36,780</strong></td>
<td><strong>$50,670</strong></td>
<td><strong>$46,530</strong></td>
<td><strong>$68,815</strong></td>
<td><strong>$55,330</strong></td>
<td><strong>$20,700</strong></td>
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</table>
Charitable Contributions by Issue (Sample)
Mrs. Anderson

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Arts</strong></td>
<td>$ 10,700</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>$ 13,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education</strong></td>
<td>32,500</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>8,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Environment</strong></td>
<td>2,230</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2,230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Health/Human Services</strong></td>
<td>11,000</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>11,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other</strong></td>
<td>12,385</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>20,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$ 68,815</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>$ 55,330</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

![Pie chart showing distribution of charitable contributions by issue]
## Charitable Contributions by Type (Sample)

### Mrs. Anderson

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual Campaign</td>
<td>$44,885</td>
<td>$20,300</td>
<td>$65,185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Campaign</td>
<td>11,930</td>
<td>21,930</td>
<td>33,860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Support</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>13,100</td>
<td>25,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$68,815</strong></td>
<td><strong>$55,330</strong></td>
<td><strong>$124,145</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Annual Campaign**: 53%
- **Capital Campaign**: 27%
- **Program Support**: 20%
5. What might a philanthropic advisory process look like?

- Direct gift to charity from personal funds
- Support for community foundation or supporting organizations
- Establishing a family foundation
- Establishing charitable remainder or lead trusts to further other wealth transfer goals
- See the sample in the handout
5. What might a philanthropic advisory process look like?

- Detail the plan (example to follow), and incorporate into the client’s financial plan.
- Use members of the philanthropic advisory team to assist as needed.
- Regularly review the plan, and proactively raise questions and suggestions when the client’s situation changes.
Charitable Contributions History/Plan (Sample)
Mrs. Anderson’s Strategic Giving Plan

- Continue annual giving to alma maters at current level
- Continue annual giving to other charities at current level
  - Document annual plan and use as needed as shield against “asks”
- Maximize deduction available in final year before retirement through major gift/donor advised fund/family foundation
- Update estate plan to establish CLAT at death to further tax efficient wealth transfer goals with initial beneficiaries a charity (e.g., the arts field of interest fund and the human services field of interest fund with the local Community Foundation) and the remainder beneficiaries her three children
5. What might a philanthropic advisory process look like?

1. How do you measure impact?

2. What progress is being made on the cause or issue the client cares about through his or her philanthropy?
   - This is where a Community Foundation really shines: great ideas, can aggregate the dollars, use special powers (e.g., variance power)
   - For family foundations, an executive director or dedicated trustee may assess impact

3. Would it be helpful to partner with others with experience in this to report on the impact of the client’s philanthropy?
5. What might a philanthropic advisory process look like?

Questions you may ask along the way:

- Do I need philanthropic advisory services?
- What philanthropic advisory services do you offer?
- How do you go about incorporating philanthropy into a financial plan?
- Are you knowledgeable about giving vehicles that can advance my wealth transfer plans while achieving my philanthropic goals?
- What are the different options available to me to have the greatest impact in my philanthropy?
A good philanthropic advisor:

- knows and discusses giving options
- partners with others already very good at this; e.g., Community Foundation, experienced attorneys and CPAs
- refer clients to peers, provides useful information
- joins professional networking and professional development groups
- Isn’t shy about discussing his or her own giving, but doesn’t promote a particular giving agenda
- Reads industry publications
Sources


