



Leaving A Bequest In Your Will

Supporting Pride Foundation Australia in
advancing equity and opportunity for the
most disadvantaged LGBTQIA+ Australians.



The importance of planning your estate as a LGBTQIA+ person

Estate planning is necessary for everyone, but it is particularly pertinent for LGBTQIA+ individuals to consider outlining what happens if and when they should pass.

There are many legal and social complexities that necessitate documenting your wishes, to ensure that both you and your assets are treated with respect and your wishes are attended to, no matter how large or small your estate may be.

The default procedures for managing an estate after the death of someone without a valid Will in place (known as dying “intestate”) can be cisnormative, heteronormative, and favour biological family regardless of your relationship.



For example, if you are not legally married to your partner or operate in an untraditional family structure, without a Will your assets may be passed on to your biological next-of-kin instead of your surviving partner. Similarly, if your partner is not biologically related to your children, custody battles can arise over surviving children or dependents, causing additional stress for everyone involved.

LGBTQIA+ individuals may also have complicated relationships with their biological family and consider other loved ones as chosen family. In the process of writing your Will, you will nominate who you choose to act as the executor of your wishes, which may be delegated to biological family members if your Will is not in place. For trans individuals, this can be particularly important to ensure that your gender expression is honoured at your funeral, how you are buried and in the way you are remembered.

Having a valid Will in place ensures that you have control over your assets, your bodily autonomy and your legacy.



Why leave a bequest to Pride Foundation Australia in your Will?

In the last 40 years, much has changed for LGBTQIA+ people in Australia. While changes have been for the better, there is still much more to do. LGBTQIA+ people in Australia still face significant disadvantages, being more likely to experience discrimination, violence and abuse, and social exclusion than their cisgender heterosexual peers.

While some LGBTQIA+ people are resilient in the face of this, an unacceptable number experience significant negative health and wellbeing impacts. Social research shows LGBTQIA+ Australians:

1. experience more mental health problems due to discrimination, abuse, violence, and marginalisation.
2. are less likely to access health services because they fear or have experienced discrimination from these services.
3. with disabilities are at an even greater disadvantage than others with disability.
4. are at least twice as likely to experience homelessness in their lifetime.

Despite this, the LGBTQIA+ sector is grossly underfunded by government and NGO sources. A recent Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission (ACNC) report on grant-making charities in Australia noted that the LGBTQIA+ receives less than 1% of philanthropic funding¹.

Through Pride Foundation Australia (PFA), the power of LGBTQIA+ humanity can make a real difference to those in need.

Pride Foundation Australia is a national philanthropic foundation run by a group of voluntary LGBTQIA+ people who are

passionate about creating a better future for people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, intersex and queer (LGBTQIA+) in our community in Australia.

PFA actively works to increase philanthropic support for the Australian LGBTQIA+ and allied communities through fundraising, grant giving, collaboration and commissioning projects. PFA adopts a social change model of philanthropy and has a dedicated focus on advancing equity and opportunity for the most disadvantaged LGBTQIA+ Australians.

We prioritise funding to areas that do not receive other support to highlight areas of need and inspire other funding bodies to co-fund with us. Past areas include LGBTQIA+ homelessness, disability, mental health, and healthy ageing.

Our current priority areas are:

- LGBTQIA+ forcibly displaced people living in Australia.
- Safe use of alcohol and other drugs in LGBTQIA+ spaces.
- LGBTQIA+ Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander & South Sea Islander people.
- Rural & regional LGBTQIA+ communities
- LGBTQIA+ arts and culture
- Trans, gender diverse and non-binary people

Thanks to Australians' generosity, PFA has been able to create new opportunities, fund research to better target our philanthropy, education and support services and awareness programs for people in the LGBTQIA+ community.

¹ <https://www.acnc.gov.au/tools/reports/grant-making-charities-australia-2016>

Leave a legacy: A better future for our community

Through your Will, you have the power to improve the lives of LGBTQIA+ people and communities. In addition to family and friends, please consider PFA in your Will. Your gift, no matter how big or small, will make a difference.

Your Will is an important expression of your wishes. Your gift to PFA can be made for general or specific purposes: the choice is yours. We are grateful when people decide to include a bequest to PFA. Bequests are a vital source of us to overcome discrimination and disadvantage in our communities and we appreciate every gift.

Your gift can take the form of:

1. The residue of your estate – being the remainder of your estate once your debts are paid and provisions are made for those named in your will.
2. A percentage of your estate – while some estates may take years before realised, many choose to nominate a percentage of their estate.
3. A specific amount of money – this gift is in the form of a specified cash amount.
4. A specific gift – other property, such as shares, property, works of art and jewellery can be gifted to PFA.

If you do choose to leave a gift to PFA in your Will, we would love to talk to you about any areas of our work you would like to support.



Write your Will for free with PFA

In 2024, we began our partnership with EveryWill, Australia's most-trusted provider of free online wills, to bring our supporters easy access to a free online will.

If you choose to write your will with EveryWill, you'll be asked if you would like to include a gift to Pride Foundation Australia, or any other charity.

These gifts are transformational for PFA. They ensure we're able to protect the work we do for generations to come, ensuring the continuation of grassroots funding to improve the lives of LGBTQIA+ Australians.

There is no obligation to leave PFA a gift. You can still take advantage of this offer, and put an estate plan in place to support those closest to you. We hope you do.



Scan the QR code below to get started:



Reading this digitally?

[Click here to start writing your Will for free](#)

Alternatively, visit <https://wills.everywill.com.au/c/pride-foundation-australia>

Managing your gift: Our long-term view

Good governance

Our policies and procedures ensure you and our community can have confidence that funds will be put to the best use, now and into the future.

Accountability

We are accountable to you, to the community and to the law as we manage your bequest. PFA is regulated by the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC), to which we report annually. The Australian Taxation Office has endorsed PFA as a charity with income tax exemption (ITE) and deductible gift recipient status (DGR1), meaning gifts to PFA (ABN: 85 116 997 427) are income-tax-deductible.

Transparency

Our financial accounts are audited annually and posted publicly on the PFA and ACNC websites. PFA developed its investment policy with leading financial advisors to ensure funds are invested prudently. We can provide it to you on request. We regularly publish the outcomes of our funded projects on our website and in our newsletters.



Best-practice grant making

Our grant management is best-practice in philanthropy and based on the evidence based and proven procedures of Philanthropy Australia members and government funding bodies.

PFA does not conduct projects but rather grants funds at arm's length to organisations with expertise in their field. The key aspects of our processes are:

- conducting due diligence on an organisation before granting funds
- requiring grant recipients to enter a legal project agreement
- making staged grant payments in line with the legal agreement and subject to the organisation meeting project milestones
- requiring a grant acquittal from all grantees to understand the social impact of grants.



Thank you for considering leaving a gift to PFA in your Will.

Speak to someone at Pride Foundation Australia about your bequest

If you would prefer to make a donation during your lifetime to support our priority areas or an issue or area of concern to you, please contact us for a confidential discussion. A living legacy is an opportunity to watch how your generous contribution can make a difference, and you can add to it later through a bequest in your Will.

Our discussions can cover your possible or established charitable intentions, your options, your wish for acknowledgement (if any), opportunities to create a sub-fund in your name and our recommended wording for your bequest.

In some capital cities we can advise of lawyers who are accredited in specialist in Wills and Estates, experienced in LGBTQIA+ matters and offer reduced fee structures to PFA donors.

Please contact any PFA Director at the email or postal address below.

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