Gifts Through Estates:

Leave a Lasting Legacy at The Shea Center

For nearly 50 years, The Shea Center has been a place of transformation—empowering people with disabilities through equine-assisted services and therapies, and helping individuals discover greater confidence, independence and possibility.

A gift through your estate plan is a powerful way to extend your belief in this mission, ensuring The Shea Center remains a place of transformation for generations to come.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is a gift through my estate plan?

It is a promise to support The Shea Center's future, made through your will, trust, retirement account, or life insurance policy—rather than from your assets today. It costs you nothing now, allows you to retain full control and use of your assets during your lifetime, and can be adjusted at any time if your circumstances change.

What are my options for giving this way?

There's no one right way to leave a legacy. Your gift can take many forms, such as:

- Specific dollar amount
- Percentage of your estate
- Portion of what remains after you've provided for loved ones
- Beneficiary designation on a retirement account or life insurance policy

Whichever path you choose, your gift can be unrestricted—giving The Shea Center the flexibility to meet the needs of future generations—or designated to a specific purpose that's meaningful to you.

Can I create something in my name, or in honor of someone special?

Yes. A gift of $1 million or more can establish a separate, permanent, named fund at The Shea Center. An endowed named fund provides enduring support for a cause you care about deeply and ensures your values, and your commitment to this community, continue well into the future.

Do I need to tell The Shea Center about my plans?

It is not required, but we would be very grateful to know so that we can thank you and ensure your wishes are met. If you've already included The Shea Center in your estate plans, formal documentation is welcome but never required. A short, non-binding form can help us understand your intentions—or simply a conversation with a member of our development team is all we need to recognize your generosity and welcome you into the **Reins of Life Society**.

What is the Reins of Life Society?

Established in 2008, the Reins of Life Society honors forward-thinking individuals who have included The Shea Center in their estate plans—through a bequest, gift of life insurance, charitable trust, retirement plan, or other planned gift. It's our way of saying thank you, today, for a gift that will make its impact well into the future.

What do members receive?

With your permission, as a Reins of Life Society member you'll enjoy:

- Special invitations to events and experiences at The Shea Center
- Recognition in our Annual Report
- Recognition on signage at The Shea Center
- Connection to a community of supporters committed to The Shea Center's future

Most importantly, you'll know that your generosity is helping ensure people with disabilities continue to experience the transformative power of equine-assisted services and therapies—for generations to come.

How do I get started?

Whether your connection to The Shea Center began with a family member receiving services, with volunteer experience, or simply a belief in our mission, including The Shea Center in your estate plan is a meaningful way to carry that connection forward.

We would be honored to learn about your plans or answer any questions you may have.

Contact: Holly Hadden, Chief Philanthropy Officer hhadden@sheacenter.org | 949-625-7876

All conversations are confidential, and there is never any obligation.

The Shea Center encourages charitable donors to consult with their legal and financial advisors when creating or updating an estate plan.