

Legacy Society—Ways to Give

The Power of Gift Giving

David J. Camel, a partner at the Los Angeles law firm of Weinstein, Boldt, Halfhide & Camel and loyal donor of Junior Blind shares some valuable information about gift planning opportunities. David, who is originally from St. Louis, attended Harvard Law School and has been practicing law for over 25 years. David specializes in the areas of tax, business and estate planning.

Frequently, when working with clients regarding their intended charities, I learn much about the charities themselves. I had the occasion to work with a particular client who wanted to make a charitable gift to Junior Blind and that is how I learned of Junior Blind's wonderful programs and subsequently became a donor myself.

Junior Blind has had a major impact on me and my family. We have been invited to several events at Junior Blind and my oldest daughter, Hannah, who is 14, has attended Junior Blind's summer camp as a sighted buddy assisting other campers who are blind or visually impaired. At camp, Hannah, discovered what it means to contribute to changing a life. She had such a meaningful experience last summer that she will be attending camp again this year. So, when my clients, who come

from a variety of backgrounds, say that they want to "make a difference" by contributing to a children's charity, Junior Blind immediately comes to mind. Junior Blind is an organization that I especially like to recommend because I have had the opportunity to get to know the organization from within and I know they are truly making a difference in the lives of the people they serve.

Once someone decides that they want to make a planned charitable gift, it is important for them to visit their attorney or financial advisor to assist in structuring the gift. If someone has already adequately provided for their heirs, it is appropriate for lawyers and others assisting clients in estate tax planning to point out their tax burden can be eased through donations to charities. Making a charitable gift through someone's estate can

actually be a great help to the estate, the heirs, and the charity. Simply put, most clients would rather see their money go to a charity of their choosing rather than to the government. Many clients already have specific charities in mind; for those who do inquire, I only recommend charities that I have had specific experience with and that I believe in, such as Junior Blind.