Sojourner House

Legacy and Planned Giving Guide

Carrying Forward a 50 Year Legacy of Safety, Strength, and Hope in Our Community



A Living and Ongoing Legacy

For 50 years, Sojourner House has stood beside survivors of domestic violence in Rhode Island, offering safety in moments of crisis, dignity in the midst of upheaval, and hope for a future free from violence, serving over 75,000 survivors. As we celebrate this milestone anniversary, we also look ahead to the next 50 years of healing, advocacy, and transformation.

Legacy Giving is one of the most powerful ways to ensure that Sojourner House will always be here for survivors and their children—today, tomorrow, and for generations to come.

What is Legacy Giving, and why does it matter?



Legacy Giving, also referred to as “planned giving”, is a charitable gift designated to support a cause or organization beyond one’s lifetime. These gifts are arranged in advance as part of estate or financial planning, and could include bequests in a will, life insurance proceeds, or retirement assets.

Sojourner House has a wonderful community legacy, and it could be yours, too! Every day, survivors turn to Sojourner House at one of the most pivotal moments of their lives. They come seeking safety, housing, legal advocacy, counseling, and compassionate support. The work is urgent, complex, and deeply human, and it is never finished.

Planned and legacy gifts provide long-term stability for Sojourner House, allowing us to:

- Respond to survivors when they need us most;
- Sustain safe housing and supportive services;
- Advocate for systemic change to end domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking; and
- Adapt to the evolving needs of Rhode Island’s communities.

By including Sojourner House in your legacy plans, you help ensure that survivors will always have a place to turn, long after today’s challenges have passed.

Legacy giving is not about wealth. It is about values. Many supporters choose to make a planned gift because they believe deeply in:

- Safety and dignity for all people
- Justice and empowerment for survivors
- A future where violence no longer defines lives

Your legacy gift tells a powerful story: that you believe survivors deserve not only safety today, but opportunity, stability, and hope for generations to come.

Options for Planning Giving



There are many ways to create a legacy that reflects your personal goals, values, and circumstances:

Gifts Through Your Will or Trust

- A bequest is one of the simplest and most flexible ways to support Sojourner House. You may choose to:
  - Leave a specific dollar amount
  - Leave a percentage of your estate
  - Leave the remainder of your estate after other obligations are met
- This type of gift costs nothing today and can be updated at any time

Beneficiary Designations

- You can name Sojourner House as a beneficiary of:
  - Retirement accounts (such as IRAs or 401(k)s)
  - Life insurance policies
  - Donor-advised funds
- These gifts are easy to arrange and ensure that more of your assets go directly toward the causes you care about most.

Gifts of Appreciated Assets

- Donating assets such as stocks or other investments can offer potential tax advantages while making a meaningful impact on survivors' lives

Charitable Trusts and Life-Income Gifts

- Some donors choose to create arrangements that provide income to themselves or loved ones during their lifetime, with the remainder benefiting Sojourner House. These options can align philanthropic goals with long-term financial planning.

The Christina Crosby Giving Circle

Sojourner House is proud to recognize those who choose to include us in their legacy plans. Legacy Donors are part of a special community of supporters who believe deeply in a future without violence and who are helping to build that future now.

If you wish, your gift can be designated to:

- Support survivor housing and services
- Strengthen advocacy and prevention efforts
- Provide flexible funding where the need is greatest
- Or you may choose to leave your gift unrestricted, allowing Sojourner House to respond to emerging needs over time.

Who was Christina Crosby?

Christina Crosby was a feminist scholar, social justice activist, and one of the founders of Sojourner House.



50 Years of Impact. A Future of Possibility.

As we celebrate 50 years of service in Rhode Island, we are humbled by the generosity of those who have carried Sojourner House forward, from our earliest days to the present moment. Legacy gifts ensure that this work continues, rooted in compassion, resilience, and justice.

By planning a gift to Sojourner House, you become part of a legacy far greater than any one moment: a legacy of safety, strength, and hope for survivors and their families. Planned giving is more than a gift. It is a lasting commitment to survivors and to a future free from abuse. Thank you for considering how your legacy can transform lives.

Next Steps

Are you interested in learning more?

Please reach out to Sojourner House's Development Director, Annie Jeong at ajeong@sojournerri.org. We understand that legacy giving is deeply personal. Any conversation about planned giving will be handled with care, confidentiality, and gratitude.

If you are considering a legacy gift—or simply want to learn more—we would be honored to speak with you about how your values can shape the future of Sojourner House.

Together, we can ensure that help, healing, and hope are always within reach.

Are you ready to make a Legacy Gift?

Please fill out the enclosed form in the final page of this document to indicate your Legacy Giving interest and share it with the Sojourner House team. Sample bequest language is included on the following page to further guide your process. We also recommend consulting your financial advisor about final bequest language and process.

Sojourner House's tax ID is **05-0370419**



Sample Bequest Language

Below is sample bequest language that can be adapted by a donor and their attorney for gifts to Sojourner House. Sojourner House is a Rhode Island-based 501(c)(3) organization (EIN 05-0370419).

General (Unrestricted) Bequest
I give, devise, and bequeath to Sojourner House, a Rhode Island nonprofit corporation and tax-exempt charitable organization (EIN 05-0370419), the sum of $_____ (or _____% of my residuary estate), to be used for its general charitable purposes as determined by its Board of Directors.

Residuary Bequest
I give, devise, and bequeath _____% of the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate to Sojourner House (EIN 05-0370419), to be used for its general charitable purposes.

Specific Dollar Bequest
I give, devise, and bequeath the sum of $_____ to Sojourner House (EIN 05-0370419), to support its mission and charitable programs.

Restricted Program Bequest
I give, devise, and bequeath $_____ to Sojourner House (EIN 05-0370419), to support its housing and supportive services for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. If, in the judgment of the Board of Directors, this purpose becomes impracticable or impossible to fulfill, the gift shall be used for a purpose as close as possible to the donor's original intent.

Legacy Giving Interest Form

Nothing within this form is binding. It is merely a way for Sojourner House's team to further engage with you and your interest in Legacy Giving!

Name .....

Email .....

Phone Number .....

Mailing Address .....

.....

Please indicate which of the following two options is most aligned with your current thinking:

☐ I would like to learn more about Legacy Giving

☐ I would like to make a Legacy Gift

Date .....