

Tides Donor Advised Funds

Charitable giving can be a powerful way to advance positive social change in local communities and around the world. But having an impact through your own personal or institutional philanthropy is not easy. From selecting the best grantees and social investments to conducting due diligence to managing tax compliance, grants administration, reporting, and beyond: the simple act of supporting good causes can get very complicated, very quickly.

At Tides, we provide expert advice and simple, effective solutions to help corporations, private foundations, and individual and family donors make the most of their charitable giving and investing. It all starts with a conversation. We listen to your goals and aspirations for social change and then tailor and execute the best solutions for you.

Tides has the expertise and charitable tools to guide your philanthropic journey at every step. Working hand-in-hand with Tides' diverse team of experienced advisors, you have an unrivaled platform to make a real and lasting difference on the issues and causes that matter most to you.

By partnering with Tides, you also join a community of donors, activists, and philanthropic innovators who share your values and passion for advancing a more just and sustainable world.

The Benefits of Managing Your Philanthropy with Tides

Expertise and proven solutions. Tides' extensive tools and know-how will help you realize your vision for effective, strategic philanthropy.

From assisting you in developing a giving strategy, to conducting research, supporting grant application processes, structuring charitable investments in socially-screened funds and ventures, or even creating or managing a corporate giving program, we have the resources and expertise to support the change you seek.

What is a Donor Advised Fund?

One of the fastest growing charitable vehicles in the United States, a donor advised fund (DAF) is a fund or account created by individuals, corporations, or private foundations to manage their charitable giving. It starts with you making a tax-deductible contribution to Tides in cash, securities, or other assets. Tides then opens a DAF to house those funds, establishing an ongoing relationship where you, as the donor, develop a charitable strategy and make recommendations about the distribution of grants and other social impact investments to advance that strategy. Tides is a pioneer of donor advised funds, sponsoring them since our start in 1976.





On any given year, Tikva Grassroots Empowerment Fund makes about 100 grants domestically and internationally. That's a lot of grants for a small fund. We wouldn't be able to do this work without the Tides structure supporting the process. Tides has enabled me to focus on the substance of the issues we care about. It's an important contribution to the overall goal.

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Flexibility. Your contributions to the DAF are immediately tax-deductible, and unlike a private foundation, you have complete flexibility to manage the timing of annual grant distributions. The monies in your donor advised fund are always available for grantmaking, impact investments, and related expenses: you can recommend a grant or investment at any time.

In addition to grants to nonprofit organizations, donor advised funds can make mission-aligned equity or loan investments in social impact for-profit companies and funds.

Tax efficiency. Tides is a public charity, so contributions — including gifts of appreciated stock, real estate property and other assets — are tax deductible.

Simplicity. Tides handles all administrative details of your giving, allowing you to focus on your vision for your philanthropy and on the causes and entities you want to support.

Global reach. Tides helps U.S. donors overcome the challenges associated with supporting non-US organizations. We oversee all compliance and reporting requirements for international grants and can help you identify the best opportunities for philanthropic impact anywhere in the world. Contributions to your DAF are tax-deductible no matter where the DAF makes its gifts.

Socially responsible investing. Tides' invested funds are managed by socially responsible investment managers, making Tides one of the largest and oldest providers of donor advised funds with fully socially screened investment portfolios.

Privacy. Tides is committed to protecting the confidentiality of donor information, and donors have the ability to manage the level of public acknowledgement or anonymity for each grant recommendation. Tides will only publish the names of its funds, donors or any other individuals associated with those funds or their grants if the donor gives permission. Tides also does not sell, loan or distribute contact information of donors or fund advisors. Any electronic information relating to your fund is protected by security systems meeting industry-wide standards.



What's Included?

Fund Administration

- Designated Tides Philanthropic Advisor
- Quarterly financial statements summarizing fund activities year-to-date, as well as any grant reports required by law or requested by the donors
- Manage complex contributions to Tides, including complex securities
- Invested Funds able to participate in Tides' ESG screened investment portfolios
- Access to Tides' online system to recommend grants, check fund balances, and review the status of grant recommendations

Philanthropic Planning

- Basic guidance on grantee recommendations in alignment with your interests
- Advice on equitable grantmaking rooted in Tides' values of shared prosperity and social justice
- Access to tailored resources to craft and build your own impact plan

Grants Administration

- Access to online grantmaking portal to enable fast, efficient grantmaking recommendations
- Limited customization of Tides' grant award letters, providing donor anonymity
- Manage grantee inquiries related to the grant from Tides
- Tides' due diligence on all outgoing grants to ensure compliant grantmaking
- Grant amendments and void/reissuing of grant awards
- Learning and Collaborative Opportunities with Tides Community
- Invitations to Tides' events featuring cross-sector partners and priority issues of concern
- Networking among like-minded Tides' philanthropic partners
- Access to Tides' thought leadership and grantmaking recommendations on topical issues (disaster response, defending democracy, etc.)

What Else Should I Know?

Grant recommendations: Contributions to a donor advised fund are within the exclusive control of Tides, which is why donors are considered fund advisors and make recommendations to Tides on where DAF funds will be granted or invested. Tides ensures each grant or investment fulfills the donor's intent and is made for a charitable purpose aligned with Tides' mission and values. It is extremely rare that recommendations are not followed.

Expenses: In addition to grants, your donor advised fund can cover the costs of charitable expenses related to the grantmaking activity of the fund, such as consulting support or research to determine grant recommendations. A DAF cannot cover expenses that would result in any personal benefit to the donor, like sponsoring a table at a fundraiser.