



**WOLA**  
Legacy Society  
Guide



**WOLA**



## **Planned Giving**

What You Need to Know about

**WOLA's Legacy Society**

*Protecting human rights in the Americas for future generations.*



# LEAVE A LEGACY WITH WOLA

WOLA is leading the fight against injustice, unfair policies, and violence throughout the hemisphere. We envision a future where public policies protect human rights and recognize human dignity, and where justice overcomes violence. WOLA tackles problems that transcend borders and that require both domestic and international solutions. Through strategic partnerships with advocacy organizations, academics, religious leaders, artists, entrepreneurs, and government officials, we advocate for more just societies in the Americas. This work is made possible by donors like you.

There are a variety of types of legacy gifts. Below is more information about the ways that you can leave a gift to WOLA. Making a legacy gift is an important decision that requires professional financial advice. We encourage you to have these discussions with your financial advisor.

## Types of Legacy Gifts

There are a variety of ways to leave a legacy gift WOLA. Here are a few legacy gift types for your consideration:

- Bequest
- Estate
- Life Insurance
- IRAs
- Charitable Gifts

## Bequests

A bequest refers to a provision left in an individual's will or trust that designates a specific amount of money, percentage of the estate, or specific assets to be donated to a designated non-profit organization after the donor's passing. There are six primary types of bequests that can be used to donate to WOLA:

- A **Specific Bequest** provides a specific dollar amount to the organization.
- A **Residual Bequest** provides the organization with the remainder or a percentage of the remainder of the estate after all other debts, taxes, and expenses have been paid.
- A **Contingent Bequest** is a provision in the will or trust that takes effect if the primary intentions cannot be met (i.e. the primary or alternate beneficiaries do not live longer than the donor.)
- An **Endowment Bequest** is directed towards establishing an endowment fund, ensuring a perpetual source of income for the organization's ongoing operations or specific programs.
- A **Restricted Bequest** allows donors to specify a specific use for their donation, such as directing funds towards a particular program, project or initiative within WOLA.
- An **Unrestricted Bequest** gives the organization the flexibility to allocate funds as they see fit to further support WOLA's ongoing work and overall mission.



## Bequests

To ensure that any bequests left to WOLA are received and allocated appropriately, it is important that the language and wording of the will or trust are precise and that it specifically names the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA) as the recipient of your generous gift. Additionally, it is helpful to inform our development team of your intentions as it ensures that our organization appropriately allocates and respects your wishes for these funds.

Please see below for some sample language that can be used to begin this discussion with your attorney.

*"I direct my trustees to give the sum of \_\_\_\_ (dollar amount or a percentage of residuary estate) of my Estate (or the remainder of my Estate) to the Washington Office on Latin America (Tax ID #52-1249353), located at 1666 Connecticut Ave NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20009. I direct that these funds be used in support of their ongoing and important human rights work at the discretion of the organization."*

## Other Types of Gifts

### Life Insurance

You can make a significant impact by naming WOLA as a beneficiary of your life insurance policy. Upon your passing, the proceeds from the policy will directly support our organization without impacting your current financial situation.

## Other Types of Gifts

### IRAs

Designating WOLA as a beneficiary of your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) can be a tax-efficient way to support our mission. This gift means that the assets from your IRA will go towards our organization without being subject to income or estate taxes, maximizing the impact of your gift.

### Charitable Gifts

Charitable gifts come in various forms, including cash donations, appreciated securities, or contributions of personal property. Your generosity through charitable gifts supports WOLA's ongoing and future work, supporting our advocacy for human rights across the Americas for years to come.

*Lastly, it is important that you inform your heirs about any changes to your will to ensure that your gifts are appropriately distributed. We recommend that you not only inform the WOLA development team about these changes but also your significant other, your children, your lawyers, and anyone else who may be impacted by your decision.*



# TESTIMONIES FROM OUR LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS

*The way you can make yourself feel good as you enter your senior years is to provide some resources to organizations that you love. I love WOLA. And it makes me feel good that when I am gone that this organization will carry forward its mission as it has for 50 years and I had a small part in helping the sustainability of that organization.*

**- JOE ELDRIDGE**  
WOLA Founder and Senior Fellow

*For us it's a kind of no brainer. You know this is what you do. WOLA has done the work. And all we have to do is help support it with some of the resources that we leave behind. [...] Part of the legacy is continuing the value set and the search for social justice that for us is so important.*

**- MARIA OTERO**  
Former U.S. Undersecretary of State for  
Civilian Security, Democracy and Human Rights





# INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW

## ***Whom To Contact About Legacy Giving***

We are honored to be considered in your future financial planning. In order to ensure that our team respectfully allocates your gift, we ask that you please inform our development team.



## Interested in Becoming a Legacy Society Member?

Please contact WOLA's Vice President for Development, Lauren Kimball, at [lkimball@wola.org](mailto:lkimball@wola.org).

## ***Information Needed To File A Bequest***

**WOLA's Legal Name:** The Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA)

**Address:** 1666 Connecticut Ave NW, Suite 400 Washington, DC 20009

**Phone Number:** (202) 797-2171

**Tax ID:** #52-1249353

LEARN MORE ABOUT WOLA'S  
LEGACY SOCIETY AT



[WWW.WOLA.ORG/GET-INVOLVED/PLANNED-GIVING](http://WWW.WOLA.ORG/GET-INVOLVED/PLANNED-GIVING)

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THE WASHINGTON OFFICE ON LATIN AMERICA (WOLA)  
1666 CONNECTICUT AVE NW, SUITE 400, WASHINGTON, DC 20009