



GRATITUDE

Philanthropy at Sequoia Changes Lives and Saves Lives.

December 2013

Giving...

Lorry Lokey, the founder of Business Wire and a grateful Sequoia patient, has agreed to match every dollar given to the Sequoia Hospital Foundation through January 31, 2014, up to \$2.5 million!

Every dollar makes a difference in someone's care. **Please consider making a donation today** and be assured that **100% of your gift will be matched and 100% of your support will impact Sequoia's patient care and programs.**

[DONATE today!](#)

Announcing

Please join us in welcoming Casey Wynn, Annual Giving Officer, and Dianne Greenwald, Executive Assistant, to the Sequoia Hospital Foundation family.

Casey and Dianne joined the Foundation staff earlier this summer.



The Sequoia Hospital Foundation...

The following suggestions are excerpted from the **Year-End Tax Planning Strategies** newsletter of our friends and partners at Sensiba San Filippo LLP, Certified Public Accountants and Business Advisors.

- **Donate appreciated stock to charity.** If you have appreciated stock or mutual fund shares (*currently worth more than what you paid*) that you've owned for more than a year, consider donating them to IRS-approved charities. You can generally claim an itemized charitable deduction for the full market value at the time of the donation and avoid any capital gains tax hit.
- **Sell loser investments and donate cash.** On the other hand, don't donate loser stocks. Sell them, book the resulting capital loss, and give away the cash sales proceeds. That way, you can generally write off the full amount of the cash donation while keeping the tax-saving capital loss for yourself. *Warning:* You must itemize deductions to gain any tax-saving benefit from charitable donations, except for donations out of an IRA, as explained immediately below.
- **Make charitable donations out of your IRA.** For 2013, you can make up to \$100,000 in cash donations to IRS-approved charities directly out of your IRA -- if you'll be age 70 1/2 or older by year end. Such direct-from-IRA donations are called qualified charitable distributions, or QCDs. Donations made in this fashion don't directly affect your tax bill, because QCDs are tax-free, and no deductions are allowed for them.

However, QCDs count as withdrawals for purposes of meeting the required minimum distribution (RMD) rules that apply to traditional IRAs. Therefore, taxes can be avoided by arranging for tax-free QCDs in place of taxable RMDs. If your spouse owns one or more IRAs and is over age 70 1/2, he or she is entitled to a separate \$100,000 QCD privilege for 2013.

The key to taking advantage of the above tax-saving moves is to act *before* the end of the year. This article only outlines some strategies that might be available. Consult with your tax adviser regarding your situation.

Please contact the Sequoia Hospital Foundation in advance for specific instructions if you will be making a donation using one of these methods.

If you have questions about the above information, please contact Sensiba San Filippo LLP's San Mateo office at (650) 358-9000.

SEQUOIA HOSPITAL FOUNDATION

170 Alameda de las Pulgas Redwood City, CA 94062

Tel. (650) 367-5657 Fax. (650) 369-0277 sequoiahospitalfoundation.org