

### **How does an endowment fund work?**

An endowment is a perpetual gift. If a donor wishes to give a current gift to the PROP Endowment Fund or designate the fund in their will or estate plan, this gift will be invested. The annual income from the endowment fund is used to benefit PROP Food Shelf and special projects or needs the organization may have over time. So, the PROP Endowment Fund is for people who want to see their charitable gifts provide benefits over the long-term, potentially through generations.

### **There are so many ways to give to PROP Food Shelf. What is the advantage of an endowment gift?**

Some donors, especially those who are doing estate planning, are seeking legacy opportunities for the hard-earned dollars they have accumulated over a lifetime. An endowment allows a donor to invest in the principal of the fund, which remains intact and generates income that PROP can use to serve the community well into the future, if not forever.

### **Why is an endowment fund helpful to PROP Food Shelf?**

Annual gifts that support PROP's day-to-day expenses are critical to the life of the organization. Without food and financial donations each week, PROP would not be able to keep its doors open to the community. Endowment income, on the other hand, helps PROP plan for the future and makes possible special projects and needs beyond the annual budget.

### **Am I able to make an estate gift to PROP without it being invested in the endowment fund?**

Yes, some donors prefer to give to a specific program or wherever the need is greatest. Whatever the designation of your gift, your intent will always be honored at PROP Food Shelf.

### **May I make a current gift to the endowment fund?**

Yes, several donors have invested current gifts in the PROP Endowment Fund to launch the fund and help it grow.

### **How do I know whether an endowment gift is the right choice for PROP and for me?**

PROP Food Shelf employs a full-time director of development to help donors understand the greatest needs of the organization and make philanthropic decisions that best fit with each donor's individual intent. You may set up a confidential conversation with the director of development at any time to receive up-to-date information and talk over any questions you may have.