Activate your money for transformative social, ecological, and cultural change.

We believe gift money has an important role to play in economic life. As the most flexible, catalytic, and risk-tolerant capital, philanthropic funds are ideally suited for empowering communities and supporting systemic change.

What’s a Donor Advised Fund?

A Donor Advised Fund (DAF) is a charitable giving vehicle created to manage charitable donations on behalf of organizations, families, or individuals.

A DAF allows a donor to make a charitable contribution, receive an immediate tax deduction, and then recommend grants from the fund over time. Donors can contribute to the fund and recommend grants as frequently as they like.

While assets are at RSF, we invest for impact. Our investment approach focuses on creating long-term relationships with institutions that offer unique opportunities for positive impact in their communities by supporting economic development projects, affordable housing, and environmental initiatives.

Why RSF?

We offer best-in-class service and work closely with donors to establish a giving approach that expresses their goals and values.

- COMMUNITY: When opening a Donor Advised Fund at RSF, you are joining a vibrant, learning community. RSF can facilitate connections to like-minded donors as well as experts in your fields of interest.

- INVESTMENTS: We continually advance RSF’s pioneering impact DAF portfolio, investing assets in climate and social justice solutions while preserving liquidity for grantmaking.

- INNOVATION: An RSF DAF lets you catalyze solutions to systemic problems and experiment with new giving models that challenge philanthropy’s power dynamics.

- PERSONALIZATION: We can create a customized fund structure and work with you to develop a personalized plan for your giving.

DONATE

Individuals, families, and organizations may open a DAF account starting at $5,000

INVEST

Funds are invested to preserve principal and maintain liquidity for grantmaking while supporting leading mission-driven institutions

CONNECT

Experiment with new giving models and connect with other RSF donors

GRANT

Recommend grants to public charities of your choice at any time
Fund Details

- **MINIMUM TO OPEN A DONOR ADVISED FUND:** $5,000

- **ASSET CONTRIBUTIONS:**
  - RSF can accept cash gifts by wire, check, or credit card, as well as public equities.
  - We can also accept bequests, distributions from retirement plans, and legacy gifts.
  - RSF can accept some cryptocurrencies via BitPay.
  - On a case by case basis, we may also be able to receive closely held securities, trusts, real estate, or other complex assets.
  - RSF is not able to accept donations of motor vehicles.

- **ELIGIBLE GRANTEES:**
  - Donors can recommend grants to 501c3 organizations and equivalents such as public schools, most churches, and all federally recognized Native American tribal and local governments.
  - RSF can also make grants for charitable work to organizations that are located and operating outside of U.S. borders. The minimum amount for an international grant is $5,000. Please note that there are additional transaction fees associated with international grants.
  - Donors may recommend grants online through RSF’s client portal, by mail or email.

Donor Advised Fund Investments

RSF invests the majority of Donor Advised Funds in the RSF Liquidity Portfolio. The portfolio offers donors an opportunity to preserve principal and maintain liquidity for grantmaking while supporting leading mission-driven institutions. We do not seek market-rate returns for our DAF investments as a primary goal.

RSF measures investments on three impact dimensions:

- **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:** We prioritize partners who demonstrate rigorous engagement with the community they seek to benefit.

- **OUTCOMES ORIENTATION:** We work with partners who focus on impact results and performance, ideally through structured measurement of long-term outcomes that have been determined by the communities directly affected.

- **CHANGE AGENT & REPLICABILITY:** We seek partners who have a commitment to changing pre-existing systems that negatively affect vulnerable populations and communities.
Philanthropic Advising
Wherever a donor may be on their giving journey, we can help them explore catalytic and empowering ways to support the communities, movements, and causes they care about. We support:

- Docket research
- Giving thesis and plan development
- Issue area research
- Navigating family philanthropy
- Customized fund structures
- Participatory grantmaking
- Community-led fund support

RSF Donor Community
RSF believes philanthropic funds are the most flexible form of capital. We explore new models and learn together with our clients. We have a growing network of donors we connect with through webinars and events.

Having a donor advised fund at RSF energizes our philanthropic work. RSF’s network of experts has offered education, relationships, and new opportunities. We are especially grateful for RSF’s approach to participatory grantmaking that has enabled us to share power with the most marginalized communities, using racial justice and reparative frameworks.”

—HILARY AND PETE GIOVALE

DONORS’ FOCUS SHIFTED IN 2020 IN RESPONSE TO THE PANDEMIC AND THE RACIAL JUSTICE MOVEMENT. AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2020, RSF DAF FUNDS HAD A 72% payout rate with 41% OF GRANTS SUPPORTING RACIAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVES AND 9% funding COVID-19 PANDEMIC-RELATED NEEDS
Administrative Fees
RSF will deduct the following Community Contribution* from your account annually, based on the average daily balance:

- 1.25% of the first $1,000,000 of the Fund’s net asset value
- 1.00% of the next $2,000,000 of the Fund’s net asset value up to $3,000,000
- 0.75% of the Fund’s net asset value over $3,000,000

RSF does not charge a transaction fee.

Investment Fee
In addition to the RSF Community Contribution, RSF will charge 0.60 percent annualized on assets invested in the Liquidity Portfolio.

Service Fees
INTERNATIONAL GRANT FEES: Because of due diligence and follow-up requirements, all grants made to international charitable organizations are subject to fees:

- Grantees new to RSF: $750
- Repeat grantees: $350-$500 per grant

PHILANTHROPIC ADVISING & SHARED GIFTING FEES: Please contact us for more information regarding fees associated with our custom Philanthropic Advising and Shared Gifting Program.

Contact
For more information, please contact our Philanthropic Services team:
+1 415.561.3900
PS@rsfsocialfinance.org

* In addition to administrative support for gifts and grants, the Community Contribution supports RSF’s field building work in philanthropy. This work includes development of a participatory grantmaking toolkit and hosting webinars and gatherings for donors.