

Giving circle resources

A giving circle is a group of friends, family members or colleagues who pool charitable gifts to achieve a greater impact. As a group, you decide where to give and witness the change your charitable gifts can make. By working with Thrivent Charitable™ to administer and support your giving circle, you become part of a community of individuals and families who act on their faith, values and life experiences by giving.

Giving circle logistics

Here are a few questions to discuss before forming a giving circle:

- Who will be part of our circle?
- How often do we want to meet and where?
- Who will lead or facilitate our discussions?
- Who is responsible for different aspects of the process?
- How much money do we each want to give?

Identify member values

Each individual may have a different reason or goal for joining the giving circle. It is important to discuss each person's goals as a group as you launch your giving circle. From these discussions, your circle can move forward as a group to answer these two questions:

- Why does our circle want to give?
- What are our shared giving values?

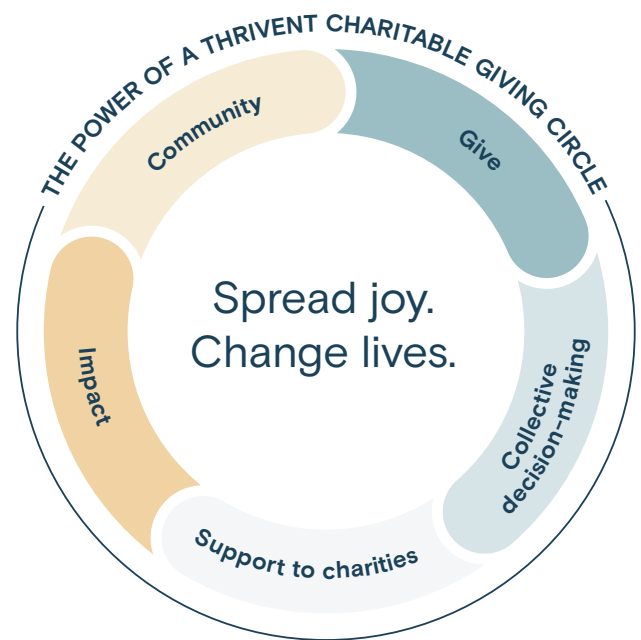
Establish your circle's mission and vision

Your giving circle can also discuss your collective mission and vision for giving to steer your grantmaking.

At the end of this discussion, you will be able to answer these questions:

- What's the impact we want to make from our grants?
- What are the ways we will support the nonprofit community to achieve our vision?

It is beneficial to put your mission and vision into two sentences to guide your group's giving and provide direction of your key intentions. Learn more in [Your Giving Plan: Set Your Course](#).



Select grant focus areas for your giving circle

What values and interests lead your selection of supported causes and organizations? These questions will help guide your discussion:

- What issues are most important to support through our giving circle?
- What does our community need and want?
- Where can we fill gaps and do the most good?

Choose grant types and amounts

Each giving circle is different when it comes to the frequency of grant distributions. As a group, you may decide to grant once per year or multiple times per year. There is no right or required frequency. You may also decide to split grant distributions among more than one organization.

- How many grants do we want to give, and how often?
- What is the minimum amount to distribute? What is the maximum?
- What time period do our grants cover?

Find applicants

Giving circle participants typically nominate organizations to receive grants. You also have the option to request proposals from organizations.

Review and vote

If you decide to use an application, your giving circle can meet to discuss applicants and determine grant recipients once the application period has closed.

Notifications

Once recipients are identified, your giving circle notifies all grant applicants of their status, if you used an application process. Contact Thrivent Charitable to recommend a grant(s) to your selected nonprofits from your circle's fund.

Impact (optional)

Giving circles often maintain a relationship with their chosen nonprofits to learn more about their ongoing community impact. Your giving circle members may choose to join mailing lists, attend events, or contact nonprofit staff for additional information.

Learn more

Visit thriventcharitable.com and learn about all the ways Thrivent Charitable can bring your generosity to life.

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