



# Private Foundation Advising and Management Case Study

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## Highlighted Results

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*Original passions re-captured in relevant terms*

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*Board members eager to present grant requests for consideration*

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*Third party leadership at Board meetings diffused tensions*

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*Three generations connected through a Family Philanthropy Day*

### Featured Project

A private foundation in the Midwest contributing two million dollars annually

### The Challenge

The founders sought advice and guidance in passing on the philanthropic intent to the next generation of adult children and eventually on to grandchildren.

The long time mission of helping young people in the family's hometown was growing less relevant with four adult children living in three states and one foreign country. Compounding the challenge was that the founders winter in the Sunbelt and are gone for months at a time.

### The Legacy Group Execution

- Mapped the original giving mission of the founders and tested the inevitable "mission drift" that occurs over time. Interviewed each adult family member to test their interest in the foundation and their own giving intentions
- Integrated all giving intentions, clarified common ground and identified disparities
- Met with all family board members to re-craft a relevant mission that included the most common ground
- Provided guidance on all other organizational elements; board makeup, officers' responsibilities, third generation involvement, grant guidelines and decision making process
- Helped new officers complete their responsibilities in advance of the board meeting and provided third party leadership for the next two board meetings

### The Legacy Group Impact

- The founders were enthusiastic and surprised at how their adult children stepped forward to get involved
- The founders re-captured their original passions in relevant terms
- With a relevant mission each board member was eager to bring unsolicited grant requests to the board for consideration, resulting in "great grants" being made and the elimination of hurt feelings when requests were declined
- Third party leadership of the board meetings diffused tensions from between generations and siblings
- Grandchildren participated in a "family philanthropy day" with parents and grandparents during which community service was performed and a homemade film produced starring adult members of the family talking about how they hope to change the world through the foundation