Charitable Remainder Trusts

A charitable remainder trust is an irrevocable trust that makes payments to one or more beneficiaries during the trust term before passing the remainder to a qualified charity. The income payments are either a fixed amount (annuity trust) or a fixed percentage of annually revalued trust assets (unitrust).

Concept applied:
A donor can use a charitable remainder trust (CRT) to create an income stream for one or more beneficiaries, make a significant charitable gift, and qualify for an income tax deduction.

How it works:
George Greenwell transfers highly appreciated stock into a CRT and names himself the beneficiary. The trust makes annual payments to George for life. He qualifies for an immediate income tax deduction for the present value of the anticipated charitable remainder interest and, of course, pays no capital gains tax on the appreciation at the time of transfer. When George dies, the trust distributes the remainder to the two charities he selected.

Why is it useful?
A charitable remainder trust lets a donor convert assets into an income stream, with significant flexibility in how income is paid and over what time period. A CRT is an ideal way to supplement retirement income or provide for the needs of loved ones—perhaps assistance for a struggling sibling, income for grown children, or funds to pay a grandchild’s college expenses.
From the telescope to the printing press to the steam engine, technological revolutions have always transformed the human condition. But never has there been a technological revolution set to change our world in pace, scope, and scale as the one in which we are currently immersed. Nonexistent only a lifetime ago, the forces of change brought on by the computing revolution are permanent, universal, and accelerating at an exponential rate. Great opportunities and great challenges have arisen on a scale never seen before.

This complex present and even more uncertain future requires a new citizenship—one that is equipped with knowledge, inspired by vision, and empowered to take action; one that values problem-solving, critical thinking, and collaboration; one that sets innovation and leadership in pursuit of equitable growth; and one committed to creating a sustainable future and improving the quality of life for this generation and the next.

CHM is in a unique position to empower people as catalysts for change inside our current technological revolution. CHM is using its extensive network and historical expertise amassed over four decades to promote a new citizenship for the digital age, bringing together companies and nonprofits, government leaders and policymakers, scholars and educators—because it will take all of us working together to build the future we envision.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

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