



In His Steps Foundation

Overview for 2008

In His Steps Foundation (IHS) began operations in 1998. IHS exists to help people find God's plan of generosity for the assets He has entrusted to them. This can include using the Foundation as a conduit for annual giving through the creation and use of a Family Giving fund, using us to help generate a comprehensive Estate Plan, or by making a provision through the Foundation to meet long-term charitable goals. In short, IHS serves people and organizations by helping them support the Lord's work here in Northeast Ohio and around the world.

FAMILY GIVING FUNDS are the most popular method of giving through foundations nationwide. Donors simply name a committee of one or more people, then contribute money or appreciated property to their individually named fund. That committee recommends to IHS who should receive grants from that fund, and IHS mails the checks. All the paperwork is done by IHS and all the giving is done by you. At least 50% of Donor Advised Funds must go to the Lord's work, but they may also be used by donors to give to a variety of worthy charities as well. We offer two types:

SIMPLE Donor Advised Funds for short-term giving are a free service of IHS. There is no limit to the number of donations from a Fund. Gifts go out with a thoughtful letter identifying the source Fund, and can even be set up for automatic regular payments. People are encouraged to use these Funds to simplify and coordinate all their regular charitable giving. We have 45 families using IHS for a Simple Donor Advised Fund.

LEGACY Donor Advised Funds carry the idea of permanence and are invested for growth. During 2007 our investment program returned over 11.5% after fees. They have a minimal 1% (plus money management) fee and have many tax, legal, and administrative advantages over a private foundation. The holder of the fund concentrates on long-term charitable giving, and leaves the legal and accounting issues to IHS Foundation. This Fund requires \$20,000 to start. We have 35 families that have started a Legacy Fund.

ENDOWMENT FUNDS allow a ministry – or a person – to set up a special fund so that the ministry receives regular distributions of income and/or growth. Reserves are legally distanced from the organization and professionally managed. This is an excellent way for small to mid-sized ministries to start a planned giving program and build an endowment for their future operations, drawing on the resources of IHS to support the program. So far, 40 different ministries have started an IHS Endowment.

ANNUAL GRANTS FROM OUR GENERAL FUND go to Northeast Ohio evangelical ministries upon the recommendation of our Distributions Committee. We require a grant application which is carefully evaluated. During our first 10 years, IHS has given General Fund grants totaling \$1.06 million to about 100 different Northeast Ohio ministries.



All gifts to IHS are fully tax deductible. As a public foundation, IHS offers maximum tax advantages under law. IHS serves the Christian community as a place where the whole community can come together and help support the Lord's work here and around the world.

IHS has now completed 10 full years of operation, making new strides each year as we've grown.
As of December 31, 2007:

- IHS year-end net assets were \$13.9 million, and the Foundation received \$5.2 million in 2007 gifts.
- 2007 Giving from IHS's Donor Advised Funds, Endowment Funds and General Funds totaled \$2,507,500. Request our *Ministries and Organizations List* for the many worthwhile ministries we support. Total grants from 1998 through 2007 now reach over \$13.2 million from all IHS component funds.
- 120 families and ministries now use the Foundation to help them accomplish God's plan of stewardship.

IHS's Goals are to see each of these three areas continue to grow year by year. The Foundation's policies allow donors the greatest flexibility for managing and using Legacy Funds and Endowment Funds. For more information, please contact:

Robert Cathcart, Executive Director
In His Steps Foundation
P.O. Box 23455
Chagrin Falls, OH 44023
Phone 330-528-1785 • Fax 330-656-0600 • www.IHSFOUND.org