

### Or could a codicil suffice?

If you have a current Will and would like to add a legacy to Bromley Healthcare Charity, then you have a choice. Probably you can deal with the matter by executing a codicil, a document signed and witnessed in the same way as a Will that effectively becomes part of the Will for probate purposes; or you can decide to make a completely fresh Will. A fresh Will is likely to be the better solution if you have a number of changes to make to the original Will.

Again, we would advise you to seek professional help, although please contact us for a very simple codicil providing for the addition of a pecuniary legacy, if you so wish.

### HMRC Tax

Whilst tax law changes frequently, and it is important to check the position at any given time, generally speaking, legacies to charities are not liable to inheritance tax. The inclusion of charitable gifts in a Will usually reduces the total amount of tax payable from an estate. That said, bear in mind that the majority of estates fall below the tax threshold (currently £325,000 net) and pay no tax in any event.

### Contact details

If you would like more details about the work of Bromley Healthcare or Bromley Healthcare Charity, or would like to discuss leaving a legacy, or simply like to talk to somebody about the issues involved, please get in touch:

**By post:** Susan Duke, Charity Administrator, Bromley Healthcare Charity, Global House, 10 Station Approach, Hayes, Kent BR2 7EH.

**By telephone:** 020 8462 0297

**By email:** [charity@bromleyhealthcare-cic.nhs.uk](mailto:charity@bromleyhealthcare-cic.nhs.uk)

**Our website:** <http://www.bromleyhealthcare.org.uk/our-charity>



# Your legacy to Bromley Healthcare Charity

All you need  
to know  
about how  
to make a  
legacy  
to us



## Why you should make a Will

It can be no surprise that many people are not keen to think about making a Will. After all, it's an acknowledgement of our mortality. Not wanting to think about the time when we shall no longer be here, we are reluctant to start to make the necessary arrangements.

But making a Will can be looked at in a much more positive light. By making a Will we are:

- ◆ ensuring that our wealth goes where we wish it to go (that the right people benefit), rather than where the law might otherwise dictate that it should go;
- ◆ making it easier for family and friends to settle our affairs;
- ◆ giving ourselves the opportunity to do good after we are gone.

## Why you should remember a charity in your Will

The joy of giving can sometimes come as a surprise. But isn't it true that most of us feel just a little frisson of pleasure as we drop a pound or two into the charity collecting tin outside the supermarket, or drop off a bag of perfectly good but unwanted clothes at a charity shop, or put those cheques in the post in response to the charity Christmas appeals – knowing in each case that, even if only in a small way, some good will come of our action; that we are helping to make the world a better place?

And sometimes, almost certainly, most of us think: "If only I could give more."

Well, many of us can give more – through our Wills. This leaflet began by explaining why you should make a Will. If you haven't already done so, but it has convinced you to put right the omission, why not grasp the opportunity to remember a charity or two in your Will – perhaps those charities that you have admired, and possibly supported in a small way, during your life; perhaps a charity whose work has made a difference to your life or the life of a loved one?

## Why you should remember our Charity in your Will

Bromley Healthcare Charity is registered with the Charity Commission and works to advance the health and well being of the population living within and beyond the borough of Bromley. We work to identify and meet those health and social care needs for which the state has no responsibility eg, Mrs A can have her corns removed by the podiatrist but not her toenails clipped at the same time.

## How to remember us in your Will

There are various types of legacy (or bequest) that could benefit Bromley Healthcare Charity:

### Pecuniary legacy

A simple gift of a set amount of money, for example £1,000.

### Specific legacy

The gift of a particular item – "My painting by John Constable hanging above the fireplace in the drawing room" / "My gold Rolex wristwatch" / "My solitaire diamond engagement ring" / "My Rolls-Royce motor car" / "My Chippendale display cabinet and its contents".

### Specific devise

A gift of real property (a flat, house, etc) – "My house, The Old Post Office, High Street, Chipping Anywhere".

### Residuary legacy

A gift from what is left of an estate after the payment of debts, funeral and testamentary expenses and prior legacies, for example "50% of the remainder of my estate" / "One third of the residue of my estate".

### Reversionary legacy

A gift of assets (capital) following the death of somebody to whom the Will has given a life interest in those assets (ie, the income generated by them) – often a life interest will be given to a widow, with the capital then passing to other beneficiaries (children, grandchildren) on her death. Charities frequently benefit in this way.

### Do you need a new Will?

If you do not have a Will already, then we strongly recommend that you seek advice from a solicitor or professional Will writer, rather than trying to make a Will unaided. They will charge for their services, but you will have the reassurance of knowing that the job has been done properly and that your last wishes, as expressed in the Will, will not be upset by some unforeseen legal foible when you are no longer here to argue your case. Most Wills end up as straightforward documents, but inheritance law can produce unwelcome results if a Will is drawn badly.

If you do not have a solicitor, The Law Society can help you find one local to you. Their telephone no. is 020 7242 1222 or visit Solicitors Online. Alternatively you can visit The Institute of Professional Will writers website.