



Donating Stock

Maximize your donation by transferring stock directly to Pilot Light.

When you donate securities (stock, bonds, and mutual funds) that have appreciated for more than a year directly to Pilot Light, you maximize your charitable contribution. In addition, because you avoid capital gain tax for those securities, you donate more to Pilot Light than if you sold the securities, then gifted the proceeds.

How does it work?

It's simple and easy. Your advisor/broker can assist you in making a gift of stock via a direct transfer to Pilot Light. Giving a gift of publicly-traded stock or mutual fund that has increased in value and that you have owned for more than one year may provide greater tax benefits than giving cash. Your charitable income tax deduction is equal to the stock's fair market value. In addition, you avoid paying the capital gains tax on any increase in the current value over the stock's original cost. You may also save by not incurring brokerage fees by transferring ownership rather than selling the stock.

To make a stock donation.

1. Please instruct your brokerage firm in writing to make an electronic transfer to Merrill Lynch as follows:

Electronic transfer to Merrill Lynch
Account Name: Pilot Light
Account Number: 7DQ-03R82
DTC#: 8862

2. To ensure proper acknowledgment of your donation to Pilot Light, please include your name and address with the transfer and inform Kathy Argentar, Manager of Institutional Giving (kathy@pilotlightchefs.org), that you have initiated the gift.

Pilot Light is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowable by IRS regulations. For further information, including instructions on how to make a gift of mutual funds, contact our Manager of Institutional Giving, Kathy Argentar at kathy@pilotlightchefs.org or (312) 952-0117. We recommend reaching out to your tax professional if you have any questions about your specific situation.