



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. Because you avoid capital gain tax for those securities, you are donating 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 fair market value of the stock. You avoid paying the capital gains tax on any increase in the current value over the original cost of the stock. 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 acknowledgement of your donation to Pilot Light, please include your name and address with the transfer and inform MaryBeth Jirgal, Major Gifts and Events Manager (marybeth@pilotlightchefs.org), that the gift has been initiated.

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, please contact our Manager of Major Gifts and Events, MaryBeth Jirgal at marybeth@pilotlightchefs.org or (773) 456-5972. We recommend reaching out to your tax professional if you have any questions about your specific situation.