



# Alamo RCD Area Inc. Joe M. Cantu Legacy Fund Where your Donations make a Difference!

**Legacy Fund Committee include:  
Alma Aguirre, Elia Pardo, Anita Villarreal and  
Jacque Cantu Wright  
(Approved by Board of Directors on 02/22/22.)**

## The Joe M. Cantu Legacy Fund

Mr. Joe M. Cantu had a deep interest in saving our water and lands which led him to serve on our Alamo RCD Area Inc. Board of Directors in 1993. He dedicated many decades of his life to our mission by also serving as President on the Texas State RC&D Board, on the Southwest States RC&D Board and lastly on the National Association of RC&D Councils Board of Directors from 1999 to 2004. From his Washington DC office he assisted 375 RC&D councils nation wide, with multiple aspects of the RC&D mission. He continued to serve to his death as an advisor for numerous environmental organizations and as a member of our Advisory Board. His leadership was based on service to his community, leading by example and by being totally involved at the "grass roots" level. He always pushed our mission forward to save our water, land and the environment, and to also promote agriculture and make our rural communities thrive. **Mr. Cantu passed away on Sept. 19, 2020 but he remains in our hearts. This Legacy Fund was created to continue his legacy and to "move forward" in his name.**



## Purpose of the Joe M. Cantu Legacy Fund

The purpose of the Legacy Fund is to provide a sustainable and reliable source of additional income to support the mission and activities of Alamo RCD Area Inc. for perpetuity.

# Legacy Fund as a donor opportunity

Donors make investments of their time and treasure throughout their lifetime. Through this fund, you can leave a legacy of charitable giving that will make an impact for generations to come.

**Our Alamo RCD Mission Legacy will mean a future of.....**

- ❖ Great agricultural productivity that brings food, fiber and energy to your home and that of others!
- ❖ Rural Seniors living happy and healthy lives!
- ❖ Kids & their families growing their own food in a home or community based garden!
- ❖ Youth working to better their communities by giving back through environmental and agricultural stewardship and a compassion for others!
- ❖ Neighbors Helping Neighbors in times of Community stress and local disasters!
- ❖ Rural communities that are vibrant and productive as they sustain the heart of our great nation!

## Donor benefits through our Legacy Fund

### **Personal:**

This fund allows donors to make a long-term impact on the causes and communities within our mission that are most important to them. Their continued support allows Alamo RCD to carry out our mission and contribute to our communities for years to come.

### **Lasting:**

This fund provides the donor with the opportunity to share a gift of giving with future generations. **You can use assets as a legacy in the name of your family, a friend, a business or as a memorial.** Through a Legacy Gift the donor continues to invest in causes that they care about within our mission and can also pass on the joy of giving for generations to come. This fund also offers the donor the opportunity to ensure that charitable giving is part of their estate plans as the donor names our Legacy Fund in their Will or Trust.

### **Efficient:**

This fund can receive a variety of gifts to support the donors legacy giving including: monetary gifts, assets from a will or trust, life insurance policies, IRAs, 401(k) plans, real estate, charitable gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts.

# How can a donor make a lasting legacy gift?

## **Undesignated Funds:**

Donors may make gifts, bequests, or devises to our Legacy Fund without designating a specific purpose. The income from Gifts not designated will provide support for our multiple mission programs and activities. The income from these funds may also be used toward any future building project, building maintenance and for repairs to any future building that we may own that enhances our mission parameters and outcomes.

## **Restricted Funds:**

Donors or groups of donors who make gifts in the amount of at least **\$10,000** or more may designate a specific purpose as long as it conforms to our mission and our programs. Restricted gifts will provide income for specific programs, facilities or mission purposes as defined by the donor within our fiscal rules for Legacy Fund expenditures.

## **Types of Gifts:**

- ❖ **Outright gifts of cash, marketable securities or real estate:** Contributing appreciated assets creates current income tax savings and possible capital gains savings
- ❖ **Gifts from a tax-deferred retirement plan:** Naming Alamo RCD Area Inc. as a beneficiary for an IRA, 401(k) or qualified plan is simple and convenient. This can normally be done through the custodian without need for complicated paperwork and can achieve greater tax efficiency for these taxable funds.
- ❖ **Bequest in a will:** A bequest makes possible a substantial charitable gift in memory of an individual or can create estate tax savings.
- ❖ **Gift of a Life Insurance Policy:** Contributing an existing policy and possibly annual gifts to cover premiums or naming Alamo RCD Area Inc. in a new policy makes possible a large future gift and possible current and future income tax savings.

## Joe M. Cantu Legacy Circle

Our **Legacy Circle** recognizes and honors those individuals who have provided for the future of Alamo RCD Area Inc. through a cash, a bequest or other planned gift to the Joe M. Cantu Legacy Fund. **Membership is generally reserved for those who have contributed or committed to an accumulated gift of \$1000 or more since Oct. 1, 2020.** Members of the Legacy Circle are invited to our **Legacy Circle Reception** held annually



along with members of the Joe M. Cantu Family. Members, with permission, can be listed in the annual recognition issue of our Newsletter and on the Alamo RCD website. Please let us know if you qualify as a member of our Legacy Circle. It is our commitment to include all those who qualify, but mistakes can be made. Please know that we do appreciate all those who give to our Joe M. Cantu Legacy Fund in any amount.

A donor can qualify if they,

- ❖ Make an outright gift of cash, securities, or real estate at minimum stated.
- ❖ Name Alamo RCD Area Inc. as a beneficiary of their IRA, 401(k), or other qualified plan.
- ❖ Make or revise their will directing a bequest to Alamo RCD Area Inc.
- ❖ Name Alamo RCD Area Inc. as a primary or secondary beneficiary or owner of a new or existing life insurance policy.

## Legacy Fund General Fiscal Management Procedures

### **Tax and Estate Planning:**

This information is for general information purposes only to our donors. For tax advice, the donor should consult their attorney, accountant or other financial planning professional. The members of the Joe M. Cantu Legacy Fund Management Committee will be available to assist the donor's advisors.

### **Alamo RCD Area Inc. Legacy Fund Rules of Management:**

#### **Repository**

The Legacy Fund will be the sole repository of all funds received by Alamo RCD Area Inc. in the name of the Joe M. Cantu Legacy Fund as gifts, bequests, or proceeds realized from the sale or disposition of non-cash items received and intended for the Legacy Fund. Prudent oversight of the charitable gifts is the fiduciary responsibility of the Alamo RCD Board of Directors.

## Longevity:

Legacy Funds become a permanent fund of Alamo RCD Area Inc. The minimum (**principal**) to begin an **active** Legacy Fund is \$20,000. The fund started with less than \$20,000 but no activity in the form of distributions/expenditures are to be made until the minimum principal total of \$20,000 has been accumulated. The minimum principal must also be maintained in this fund in order for it to remain active.

## Expenditures and Withdrawal of Funds

It is the desire of our Board of Directors that all funds be invested productively with the safety of the fund as a primary consideration. The fund receives a proportionate share of all income and all realized and unrealized capital gains and losses from Alamo RCD Legacy Fund investments. **Expenditures and withdrawals (expendable amount) from The Legacy Fund and use of investment growth and income generated from the Legacy Fund, are ONLY allowed after the fund principal gains in value to \$20,000 or more. The annual spendable amount available from the fund is calculated based on a spending rule of Five percent (5%) of the average market value of the fund for the preceding 4 quarters.** Following an annual internal audit of the fund, at the end of the Alamo RCD Area Inc. third quarter of the current fiscal year (October 1), the spendable amount is determined and made available for expenditure by March 31 of the following Fiscal Year. The **spendable amount** stays in the fund and is available for use at any time after, March 31 of the current fiscal year. There is no future time limit on distributions of the spendable amount as long as it's use is restricted to expenditures that forward the mission of Alamo RCD Area Inc.



As our Board of Directors strives to continue the Legacy left us by the dedication and mission accomplishments of Mr. Joe M. Cantu, we will revisit our Legacy Fund Management Policies/Procedures during our Strategic Planning Processes on a regular basis.

**We are forever thankful to Joe and his family for this Legacy opportunity.**