

Does Your Will Work?

Some wills won't. For example, if your state requires the signatures of two disinterested witnesses and a beneficiary of your will signs as a witness, your will may not work.

An out-of-date will that fails to take full advantage of current estate tax law may not work well either. It could cost thousands in added taxes. Nor can you feel confident in a will that has not been updated to reflect major changes in your family life or financial affairs.

Does your will accomplish everything you want it to do? Is it up-to-date? Is it valid? Do you even have a will?

We at Kalamazoo College want you to have the peace of mind that comes from knowing you have a valid estate plan. We want you to have a will that works well for you. And, frankly, one that works for us – one that includes a bequest to Kalamazoo College.

It's amazing how often people say, "I never thought about making a charitable gift through my will. It just never occurred to me."

When you name Kalamazoo College in your will (or living trust) to receive a specific amount or a percentage of your estate, you make one final gift – your crowning gift – to an organization you have supported during your life. You declare in your Last Will and Testament that you believe in the mission of Kalamazoo College and that you want a portion of your accumulated assets to be invested in furthering the good work of this extraordinary educational institution.

If you have arranged for an estate gift to Kalamazoo College through a will or other transfer document, we would like to know so we can thank you while you are here. We want to express appreciation for your confidence in our future. We want to honor you for your prudent planning. Of course, if you wish, we will treat news of your bequest plans anonymously.

As always, we urge you to consult with an estate-planning attorney or other qualified advisor regarding a will, a living trust or whatever else may best suit your needs. Sound professional help will contribute to your peace of mind – and that of your family.