

USR GIFT POLICY

The Unitarian Society of Ridgewood relies on the support of its members and friends in order to carry out its mission. To this end we welcome both financial and in-kind support. It is important that this support be given and accepted within certain defined parameters in order to ensure that the Society's activities take place in accordance with our governance structure and are not subject to individual interests or burdensome encumbrances. Approved categories include:

- Gifts directed to a specific operating account within the current fiscal year
- Restricted gifts for an existing restricted fund, such as the Building Fund, Intern Fund, or Endowment Fund.
- Area of most need/at the Board's discretion
- Unrestricted and Memorial Gifts – Directed to the Endowment Fund per the By-Laws currently in effect

In the event that a donor would like to make a substantial gift to establish a new fund, the Board must vote to establish such a new fund after a review to ensure that the fund is consistent with the Society's purpose and would not create an undue administrative burden on the Society.

Note: Gifts earmarked for a Designated Fund such as the Minister's Housing Fund cannot be accepted because the fund would then contain both Designated and Restricted funds and thus create an administrative burden for the Society.

In instances where the donor imposes a restriction that the Board deems burdensome or inconsistent with this policy, the Board may seek to have the donor alter the terms of the gift or refuse the gift.

All non-monetary gifts to the Unitarian Society of Ridgewood (USR) immediately become the property of the USR and are accepted with the understanding that the gifts have been donated without restrictions on their use, sale, or disposal unless otherwise specified and subject to the same Board prerogatives as set forth above.

Revised August 2024