Gift Acceptance Policy
InterFaith Alliance of the Southwest (IFASW)
August 20, 2025

InterFaith Alliance of the Southwest
Gift Acceptance Policy

Purpose: To provide guidelines for the acceptance of gifts, donations, and contributions to IFASW. This policy ensures that all gifts are in alignment with the organization's mission, values, and ethical standards while maintaining transparency, accountability, and compliance with legal and regulatory requirements.

Scope: This policy applies to all gifts, including cash, in-kind donations, bequests, and other contributions made to IFASW by individuals, corporations, foundations, or other entities. It governs all forms of gift acceptance and outlines procedures for the evaluation, approval, and management of gifts.

General Principles

Mission Alignment: All gifts must align with the mission and values of IFASW, which is dedicated to fostering interfaith dialogue, promoting understanding, and advancing inclusivity through collaboration and respect among diverse faith communities.

Unacceptable Gifts: IFASW will not accept gifts that may compromise the integrity or reputation of the organization or conflict with its mission, vision, or ethical standards. Gifts that impose inappropriate conditions or obligations on the organization will not be accepted.

Legal Compliance: IFASW will comply with all applicable local, state, and federal laws and regulations governing charitable donations and nonprofit operations, including tax regulations and reporting requirements.

Types of Gifts

IFASW accepts the following types of gifts, subject to the terms outlined in this policy:

Cash Donations: Monetary contributions made through checks, credit cards, electronic transfers, or other means of cash donation.

In-Kind Donations: Non-monetary gifts such as goods, services, equipment, or facilities. These will be accepted when they are useful to the organization and contribute to its goals.

Bequests and Planned Gifts: Donations made through a will, trust, or other planned giving mechanisms, including life insurance, retirement accounts, or real estate.

Securities and Stocks: Publicly traded securities or stocks will be accepted. The value of such gifts will be determined based on the market value at the time of transfer.

Real Property: Real estate donations may be accepted if they are consistent with the organization's objectives and do not impose significant financial or legal liabilities.

Restricted Gifts: Donations may be designated for specific programs, projects, or purposes as long as they align with IFASW's mission and strategic goals.

Guidelines for Acceptance of Gifts

Gift Review Process: All gifts will be reviewed by the appropriate IFASW financial team (Treasurer & Executive Director) to ensure alignment with this policy. If there are any concerns about the gift's compatibility with IFASW's mission, ethics, or legal standing, the leadership will consult with legal counsel and the Council.

Gift Restrictions: IFASW may accept restricted gifts (e.g., funds earmarked for a specific program), but such restrictions must be reviewed and approved by the Council to ensure they do not conflict with the organization's priorities. IFASW reserves the right to refuse gifts that impose unreasonable or incompatible restrictions.

Valuation of Gifts: It is the responsibility of the donor to provide an independent valuation of any non-cash gifts, including securities, real estate, and other valuable assets. IFASW may provide the donor with a written acknowledgment of the gift but will not appraise or value the donation for tax purposes.

Procedures for Gift Acceptance

Donor Acknowledgment: IFASW will provide written acknowledgment for all gifts received, in accordance with IRS requirements for charitable contributions. This acknowledgment will include a description of the gift, its value (when applicable), and a statement indicating whether any goods or services were provided in exchange for the donation.

Gift Acceptance Review: The IFASW financial team will review and approve non-cash gifts and any other gifts requiring special consideration. The team will make recommendations for acceptance or decline of gifts based on the organization's interests and goals.

Ethical Considerations: If a potential donor seeks to impose conditions that may compromise the mission or ethical standards of IFASW, the financial team will discuss the issue with the donor, and, if necessary, decline the gift.

Restrictions on Certain Types of Gifts

IFASW will generally decline gifts under the following circumstances:

Tangible Personal Property: Gifts of tangible personal property (e.g., art, jewelry, collectibles) will only be accepted if they are useful to IFASW's mission. If the item is not relevant, it may be declined or sold, and the proceeds used for IFASW's work.

Undue Burden: IFASW will not accept gifts that require unreasonable administrative costs, legal liabilities, or other burdens that cannot be justified based on the gift's value or benefit to the organization.

Gifts from Unethical Sources: Gifts from sources that are involved in illegal activities, or from entities whose business practices or values conflict with the organization's mission, will not be accepted. This includes, but is not limited to, gifts from companies involved in activities that harm public health, human rights, or the environment.

Reporting and Documentation

All gifts received will be properly recorded and reported in accordance with IFASW's financial reporting requirements and IRS regulations. This includes maintaining accurate records of gifts, donor information, and the value of donated assets. An annual report will be published which summarizes the total contribution, and sources if applicable, to ensure transparency and accountability to donors and the public.