

Be Part of the Future

Your Guide to Leaving a Legacy to the Bishop Simeon Trust



BISHOP
SIMEON
TRUST

Transforming Communities, Changing Lives

www.bstrust.org

Introduction

The Bishop Simeon Trust may be something of a small fish in the huge pond of the charity world, but in our opinion, we're truly making a splash.

The impact we're making on communities in South Africa is certainly not insignificant and that is wholly thanks to the dedication of our supporters, the cooperation of our partners and the dedication of all the project workers.

Think, for instance of the home based carer who treks miles each day to visit the families on their roster, inevitably building up emotional attachments along the way. By the end of their day they are often physically and mentally exhausted - but the next day they get up and do it all over again.

Think also of the courage and determination of the South African child who, orphaned through HIV/AIDS, takes over their household to care for their younger siblings. They too end their days exhausted but, given an opportunity for an education, they grasp it with as much power as they can muster.

The need for our education, advocacy and welfare projects will continue well into the future and leaving a legacy in your Will to the Bishop Simeon Trust is a wonderful way to continue the support you may have given during your lifetime.

If you are considering leaving a gift in your Will, we have put together this guide to help make that decision as easy as possible for you. We hope it will help you with the practicalities of including the Trust in your Will and show how your generosity will make a difference to the South Africa of tomorrow.

Thank you for your support.

Why make a Will

There are many reasons why it is wise to make a Will. Here's what we consider to be the top three.

1. Providing for your loved ones

Your Will is the only way to ensure your money and possessions go to family and friends as you would wish. Without one, the government can step in and your estate may end up being distributed in ways you never intended. Not only that, your family can face a major legal headache that only causes to worsen things in their time of grief.

2. Reduce the tax bill

Inheritance tax comes into effect on any estate valued over a set threshold (currently £325,000). The tax bill in such cases comes to 40% of the balance over that threshold. However, any gift in your Will to a qualifying charity, such as Bishop Simeon Trust, is not only exempt but can in fact reduce the inheritance tax on your estate. If you leave 10% of your estate to charity, the inheritance tax due may be reduced to a rate of 36%.

3. Make a lasting contribution

If you have supported a charity or social cause throughout your lifetime, then leaving a legacy in your Will is a wonderful way to continue your support for future generations.

How your gift helps the Bishop Simeon Trust

People often think that a gift to charity has to be a large sum of money, but that simply isn't true. Any amount can make a big difference. Here's some of the ways your generosity could be remembered in South Africa.*

£10,000 could change the lives of an entire community, enabling us to run one of our Safe Parks and feeding schemes for over a year, providing: food for over 300 children a day, interactive drama methods to train young people in personal and social skills, help with homework and a safe environment to play and learn after school.

£500 could buy essential books, toys and food for orphans supported by one of our Safe Parks.

£70 could give vital support to up to 20 child-led households or provide medical and practical care for families infected or affected by HIV/AIDS for more than a month.

Whatever the size of your donation it will be invaluable in helping individuals and communities to receive the education and care they are entitled to and changing the future opportunities of generations to come.



"I love my job because I am an important part of helping to change children to be somebody better in life in the future."

Lebohang Pule (one of the BST Safe Park Coordinators)

"I love coming here (to the Safe Park) as home.

It is nice here! I want to be a nurse when I
Amena (aged 8)



**there is no food at
grow up."**

*Figures quoted are approximates and can vary according to the exchange rates at any given time.

How to make a Will

Making a Will can seem a daunting prospect but it is actually easier than you might think and should not be expensive. The best approach is to consult a solicitor or authorised Will writer who can make sure your Will is worded correctly and that no ambiguities arise. It is possible to write a Will yourself but if you choose this route, you do run the risk of mistakes affecting the validity of your Will. You might want to approach an agency such as the Citizens Advice Bureau for advice.

Here are some simple steps for you to follow during the process:

1. Value your estate

Before you visit your solicitor, it will help if you can estimate the value of your estate (property, possessions and money). It's a good idea to dig out any related documentation too, for instance property deeds, life insurance policies, savings account statements etc.

2. Make a list of beneficiaries

Consider everyone you wish to include in your Will – family, friends, charities and so on. As well as thinking about how you would like your estate distributed to your beneficiaries, this is also the time to consider other practicalities such as who you would like to look after any children under 18 or what happens should the people you want to benefit die before you.

3. Consider any complications

There are many situations that can make a Will less than straightforward, for instance if you run a business, live abroad, share a property with someone who isn't your spouse/ civil partner and more. Your legal advisor will be able to help as long as they have all the necessary information.

4. Decide if and how you would like to leave a legacy

If you choose to leave a gift to a charity in your Will, this can be done in one of three ways:

- Pecuniary legacy – a fixed sum of money.
- Residuary legacy – the remainder of your estate once all other instructions have been carried out and any debts have been paid.
- Specific legacy – property or a specific possession (e.g. jewellery, antiques).

In all cases, it is very important to get the wording right. Don't worry too much about this though as your solicitor will ensure everything is legally correct. If you wish to include the Bishop Simeon Trust in your Will, you will simply need to give them the details of your gift along with the following information:

Charity name: The Bishop Simeon C R Trust Incorporating The Living South Africa Memorial

Registered address: 6 St Martins Place, London WC2N 4JJ

Registered charity number: 1016122

5. Tributes or Gifts in Memorium

If you are unable to leave a legacy or wish to add to it, you might consider making it known that you would prefer donations to your chosen charity in place of the traditional floral tributes at a funeral. Again, your Will is your opportunity to make such wishes known and your legal advisor will need the charity's details as above.

6. Choose your executors

You must decide who you wish to sort out your estate and carry out your wishes after your death (executors). You'll probably want to choose someone you know and trust but remember this is a role which can involve a considerable amount of work on their behalf, so it is always good to ask them if they are happy to be involved first.

7. Make sure it is legal

For a Will to be legally secure it has to be made voluntarily by a person of sound mind over the age of 18. It must be made in writing and be signed by the person making the Will observed by two independent witnesses. Your witnesses must also be aged 18 or over and sign your Will in your presence. You cannot leave your witnesses (or their married partners) anything in your Will.

8. Keep it safe and up to date

Once completed, you should keep your Will in a safe place and let your executors, a close friend or relative know where it is. You may wish to store your Will at home with other important documents such as your birth certificate or alternatively with your solicitor, your bank or the Principal Registry of the Family Division.

9. Review and change your Will when necessary

Every so often, you might want to review your Will or make amendments, particularly if you experience a change of circumstances such as a marriage, divorce, birth or death. While major changes might involve drawing up a new Will, most minor changes can be made through an added instruction (a Codicil) to your existing Will. This is easy to do and should not be expensive.

Letting us know

Your Will is a completely confidential document and it is entirely up to you whether you decide to share your plans with anyone during your lifetime.

If you do decide to include the Bishop Simeon Trust in your Will, it would be a great help if you can let us know. First of all it means we can express our thanks to you but importantly it also helps us to plan our work better for the future and make sure that, when the time comes, your gift is used where it is most needed. You can tell us about your legacy using the contact details below.

Further information

Answers to many common queries can be found in our Legacy FAQs (downloadable from the BST website at www.bstrust.org). However, should you or your legal advisor have any other questions, please contact us on 0845 430 1214, email info@bstrust.org or write to us at PO BOX 4514, Dunstable LU6 9QE.

Thank you