Businesses of every size want to give back to their community but often can’t afford to take time away from their core mission. This is where Blue Grass Community Foundation comes in. We are here to help your company develop charitable giving strategies and tactics consistent with your corporate values and employee interests.

Quite simply: we do the work and your company gets to shine. Our goal throughout is to ensure that your company’s charitable gifts make the strongest impact possible in the community where you live and work.
EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE FUNDS

Businesses often help their employees in times of need, but if not structured properly this act of compassion can provide no tax benefit to the business and can be taxable to the employees. An Employee Assistance Fund (EAF) can often provide the best solution.

How It Works. The business provides funding, sets guidelines and promotes the program to employees. Blue Grass Community Foundation (BGCF) creates a simple application process, reviews applications and distributes funds related to the financial hardships.

What Incidents Are Covered?

Qualified Disasters. These disasters are usually covered when federally declared by the U.S. president and deemed catastrophic by the secretary of the treasury.

Personal Hardships. These hardships may include serious illness or injury, undue hardship not caused by employee, military deployment, violent crime, fire or other natural disasters and death of employee or eligible dependent.

What Expenses Are Covered? While there is some flexibility, EAFs are generally designed to assist employees with immediate and essential living needs and the related expenses.

Types of Essential Living Expenses:

- Rent/mortgage/other housing payments
- Temporary housing and security deposits
- Essential utility bills (electricity, heat, water, etc.)
- Medical expenses (not otherwise covered by insurance or eligible for third-party reimbursement)
- Minor home repairs needed to maintain home safety, etc.

In short, Blue Grass Community Foundation can fully administer the program, allowing you to Do Good for your employees and maintain focus on your core business.

"At the heart of our corporate culture is a commitment to the well-being of our employees, so establishing an employee assistance fund was a top priority for us. And BGCF makes it so easy: Tempur-Sealy makes contributions to the fund, and they take care of everything else. It allows us to support our employees while keeping our focus on the core business."

Tempur–Sealy International
For Your Employees.

**Corporate Scholarship Fund.** One simple document is all it takes to help employees’ children further their education by creating a scholarship fund. With full support from the Community Foundation, the company develops the criteria while the Community Foundation’s scholarship committee reviews applications and the Foundation’s staff distributes funding and monitors progress, insulating the company from decision-making responsibility.

“BGCF’s expertise was invaluable and the guidance they gave us helped immensely. Their customized services ranging from advertising, accepting and screening the applications, to choosing the recipients is well worth the investment.”

— Clark Material Handling

**Employee Giving Circles.** This is a great way to encourage philanthropy among your employees: They make tax-deductible gifts to a fund and then collectively choose the charities that benefit. Your company can even add to the pool through a matching gift program.

**BGCF365.** Organized by BGCF for emerging leaders and philanthropists (generally in their 20s-40s), participants pool their charitable resources ($365 annually per member) to fund innovative work by local nonprofits through a competitive grant program. Membership also includes a variety of networking and educational opportunities, making it a great way to meet other young professionals and become more engaged in the community. Your business can sponsor your employees’ membership in BGCF365 to encourage professional development and civic engagement, or pay a portion of the membership as an incentive for your emerging leaders to join on their own.

Executive Donor Advised Fund.** Attract and retain top executives by providing them with a personal charitable fund. From the fund they can support the causes they care about through fund contributions made by them, the company, or a combination of both. As additional incentive, the company may elect to pay the fund’s annual community support fee.

For Your Clients.

**Customized Giving Cards.** Recognize clients, prospects, employees and vendors with a Giving Card loaded with redeemable charitable dollars. Recipients use them to support the charities of their choice. You may customize the cards with your logo for a simple, powerful and inexpensive way to associate your company’s brand with generosity in the eyes of employees, clients and the public.

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For Your Community.

**Corporate Charitable Foundation.** Outsourcing the administration of your corporate giving to BGCF increases its impact and efficiency. Your company contributes charitable dollars to the fund when it is best from a revenue and tax-planning standpoint, then grants are distributed to nonprofits on your timetable. By completing one simple form, your corporate fund is quickly established. Simplify your giving, increase your visibility and maximize your community impact while BGCF relieves you of the burdens of administration and compliance.

“BGCF provides an efficient vehicle to manage our charitable contributions. Establishing a charitable fund enables us to make donations conveniently online, and BGCF promptly manages the distribution and accounting of our grantmaking.”

— Bill Chapman
President, Clay Ingels

**Cause Marketing.** One great strategy to leverage your corporate charitable foundation is to align a portion of a product’s sales with a charitable cause. It’s a simple way to enhance your company’s public image and invite your customers to join you in giving.

**Disaster Response Fund.** When disaster strikes locally or internationally, we can work with you to respond quickly with our relief fund package. With full capacity for online donation, this can provide a simple way for your employees to make gifts to aid disaster relief.

To learn more about partnering with Blue Grass Community Foundation to enhance your corporate philanthropy, contact:

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