

A Helping Hand: Alternatives to Starting a Nonprofit



The desire to make a positive impact often leads to considering starting a nonprofit. However, creating and sustaining a nonprofit involves significant challenges. This will help you decide on the best way to support your philanthropic goals.



10 STEPS TO STARTING A NONPROFIT



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SO YOU WANT TO GIVE BACK?

When working through these steps, you must first know your “Why.” It is important to know why and how you want to help others. Fill in the underlined words below with what you are passionate about, and then follow the flowchart on the next page.

1. I want to help people.

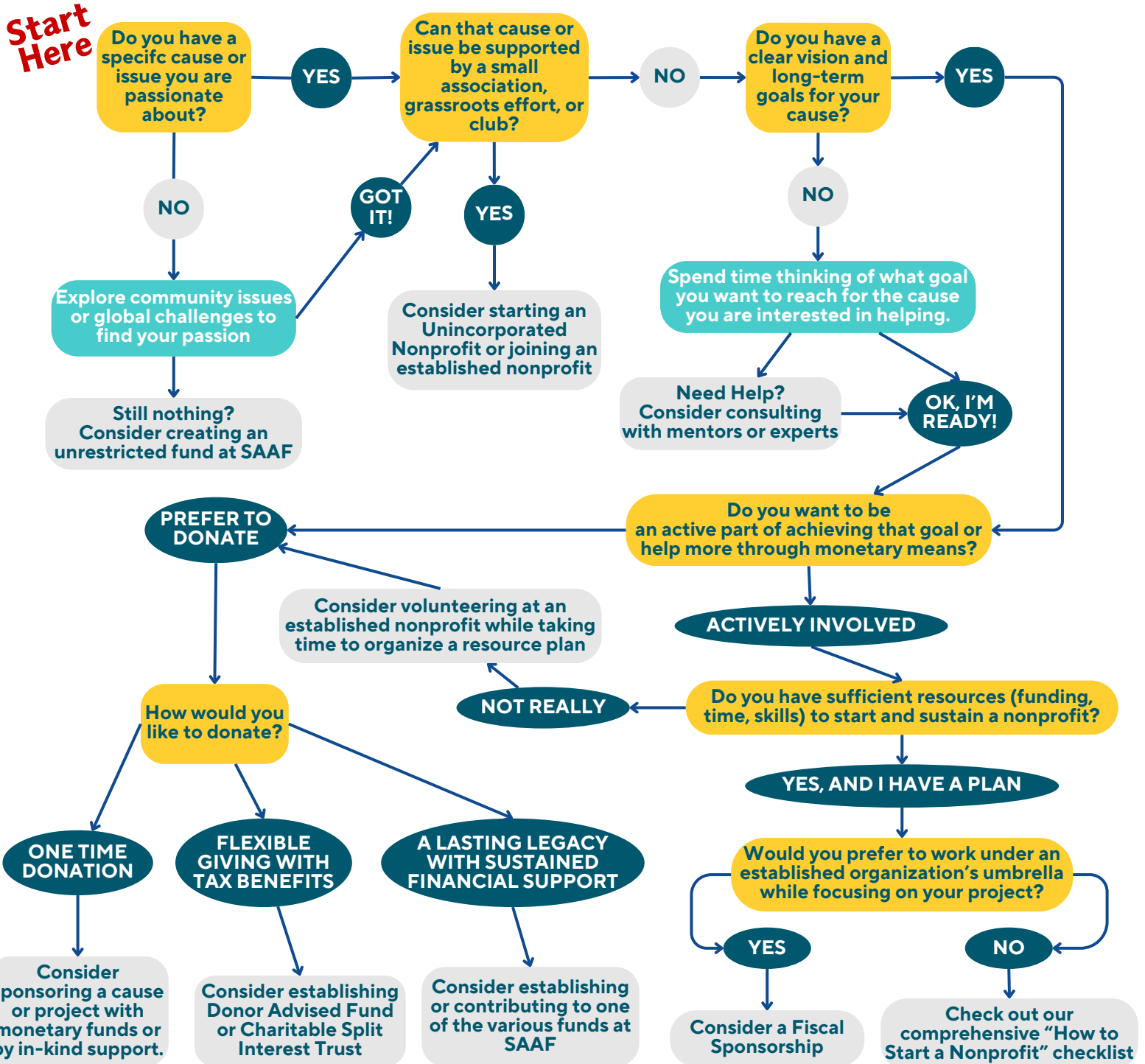
2. I want to help people experiencing homelessness.

3. I want to help people experiencing homelessness get shoes.

4. I want to help people experiencing homelessness get shoes to protect their feet during extreme weather in our area.

DOES STARTING A NONPROFIT MAKE SENSE?

Work through this flowchart to identify whether establishing a nonprofit aligns with your vision, resources, and desired level of involvement or if an alternative route better suits your goals of making a meaningful impact.



Many people have worked through the process outlined in this flowchart. The next page describes successful outcomes on each of these different philanthropic paths.

SUCCESSFUL PHILANTHROPIC AND NONPROFIT JOURNEYS

Regardless of which direction you take, you can have a significant impact on community challenges and local initiatives. SAAF has helped numerous philanthropic champions in defining and succeeding in their giving journey.



Contribute to a cause or project with monetary funds or with in-kind support.

"As a philanthropic partner, SAAF has helped us execute our giving goals and allowed us to support causes we love and that inspire us to give while offering the benefit of anonymity. Working together ensures that our charitable causes will benefit now and for years to come."
~ Anonymous Donor

Establish a Donor Advised Fund or Charitable Split Interest Trust

"The Foundation has made it easy for us to give, handling the administration of the grants we recommend from our donor advised fund to charity. Over time, our fund grows from investment gains, making our gifts more impactful." ~ Karen & Tim Bennie



Establish or contribute to one of the various funds at SAAF

"I wanted to make a meaningful gift to support causes that are addressing the most critical needs of the Concho Valley. By contributing to the Give For Good Fund, I joined other forward-thinking individuals who recognize an endowment dedicated in perpetuity to our community's well-being benefits everyone now and for generations to come." ~ Patsy Eckert



Consider a Fiscal Sponsorship

SAAF has been instrumental in making significant improvements to the community such as the revitalization of a downtown historic building, converting 80,000 square feet into a modern, inviting library. On the corner of Beauregard and

Irving, Stephens Central Library was the Foundation's first of many community projects, and as the fiscal sponsor, SAAF worked alongside passionate donors to raise needed funds to complete the project.

Check out our comprehensive "How to Start a Nonprofit" checklist

If you reached this conclusion, you are ready to take the next step in establishing a nonprofit. The GOLD Beacon, PLLC has developed two "How to Start a Nonprofit" checklist, one being basic and the other much more comprehensive. These tools will guide you in establishing a strong, sustainable nonprofit in Texas. Please do not hesitate to reach out to the nonprofit experts at The GOLD Beacon to ask questions, seek guidance, and access more tools.



As you conclude this guide, remember that each step in your philanthropic journey is significant. Whether you decide to start a new nonprofit or take an alternative route, what matters most is the impact of your efforts. If you're looking for more personalized philanthropic guidance, connect with the SAAF team.

For more information, tools, templates, and consulting on starting or expanding an established nonprofit, connect with The GOLD Beacon. Their team of experts is well-equipped to provide tailored advice and support, ensuring that your social change endeavors are both effective and fulfilling.

San Angelo Area Foundation

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