

Bequests to Kagyu Choeyang Ling Centres

If you are considering leaving a gift (bequest) in your will to support Kagyu Choeyang Ling (KCL) centres, this document will provide some useful information.

Get legal/financial advice and think carefully

Details of your bequest must be written into your will and must be signed by you.

Seek the advice of a trusted legal advisor, and carefully consider the appropriate proportion or amount, and the type of gift for each of your beneficiaries.

You can specify a specific sum, all or part of a particular asset such as property, shares or an insurance policy, a proportion of your estate, or all or part of the residue of your estate (the remainder after all expenses and specific bequests have been paid).

You may also consider the tax implications of the type of gift that you make. For example, some people set up a family trust that donates a proportion of annual interest on funds invested by the trust to one or more beneficiaries. This can have tax advantages and provide for ongoing support well into the future.

Think carefully about any dependents, making sure that you find a good balance between providing for dependents versus supporting a cause that is close to your heart. Note that bequests can sometimes be overturned by those who believe that they have a right to be provided for in your will, yet were not adequately provided for.

Don't delay

If you are wanting to make a bequest, do not delay changing your will or making a will if you do not have one. There are many instances where people intend to make a change to their will and delay so long that it is then too late. As we know, our lives are like water bubbles.

If you die without making a will, then there are laws that determine what happens to your money and property, which might be quite different to what you would have wanted.

Who exactly to give to

If you wish to make a donation or bequest that will benefit Kagyu Choeyang Ling (KCL) centres in the long term then it is best to give your bequest to the **Rinchen Jungdan Dongrum Gyal Foundation**. This foundation was established by Lama Assi to assist with the provision of facilities and other support to the Kagyu Choeyang Ling centres and their affiliated activities. It has a New Zealand-wide focus and will be able to direct funds to the area of greatest need for the flourishing of the Dharma in general and specifically the Kagyu lineage in New Zealand.

However, if it is your preference, you can also give directly to **The Kagyu Choeyang Ling Trust** (the charitable trust that operates as [KCL Nelson](#)), or to **Rigdrol Yeshe Buddhist Institute** (the charitable trust that operates as [KCL Christchurch](#)).

Correct wording

In your will you should use the correct name of the charitable trust that you are giving the bequest. It is also helpful to include their registered charity number, for example:

- “Rinchen Jungdan Dongrum Gyal Foundation (registered charity CC49783)”.
- “The Kagyu Choeyang Ling Trust (registered charity CC22703)” - for KCL Nelson.
- “Rigdrol Yeshe Buddhist Institute (registered charity CC11165)” - for KCL Christchurch.

You may wish to prepare a statement like the examples below and ask your legal advisor to have it included in your will.

"I give to Rinchen Jungdan Dongrum Gyal Foundation (RJDGF) (registered charity CC24641), ___ percent of the residue of my estate for its general or endowment purposes. The receipt of any responsible officer of RJDGF shall be a full discharge to my executors."

or

"I give to Rinchen Jungdan Dongrum Gyal Foundation (RJDGF) (registered charity CC24641) the sum of \$ ___ for its general or endowment purposes. The receipt of any responsible officer of RJDGF shall be a full discharge to my executors."

(It is recommended that bequests of fixed sums be regularly reviewed to allow for inflation.)

or

"I give to Rinchen Jungdan Dongrum Gyal Foundation (RJDGF) (registered charity CC24641) [my shares in XYZ company/Buddhist books, statues and shrine objects] for its general or endowment purposes. The receipt of any responsible officer of RJDGF shall be a full discharge to my executors."

What will happen to your bequest

While you can state your preferred use of your gift, it is usually preferable if you leave it to the trust receiving the gift to use it according to current needs, which may have changed from the time that you make your will.

Any decision about the spending of a bequest made to the above organisations will be carefully considered by experienced trustees and will always be guided by the Spiritual Director (Venerable Lama Assi, or a future director appointed by the His Holiness, the Gyalwa Karmapa). We ask that you trust our spiritual director and trustees experience to know how to use the gift where it is most needed.

Your gift will be used to support KCL centres with their goals. These are to provide a strong foundation for current and future generations to practice authentic Dharma in the Karma Kagyu Lineage. Strong centres with dedicated and pure focus will make it easier for people to meet the teachings and practice the Dharma to attain genuine realisation.

However big or small your bequest, it is likely to make a real difference.

Please let us know

If you have included (or plan to include) KCL in your will the trustees would love you to let them know so that they can extend their thanks on behalf of us all. This information will always be treated in complete confidence.

Further information, advice, or help

You should seek the advice of a solicitor or other trusted legal advisor to help you draw up a will. Typically you won't be charged by a solicitor for help with creating or changing a will, or the cost will be minimal.

If you would like any further information about our trusts or activities, please contact:

Trustee	Trust	Phone	Email
Daniel Brownlees	RJDGF	03 544 9362	rinchen@kcl.org.nz
Darrell Kilian	RJDGF , RYBI	03 960 3019	christchurch@kcl.org.nz
Roz Brownlees	RJDGF, KCL Nelson, RYBI	03 544 9362	nelson@kcl.org.nz
Wilhelmina (Willy) Flick	KCL Nelson, RYBI	03 388 9250	christchurch@kcl.org.nz

RJDGF = Rinchen Jungdan Dongrum Gyal Foundation

KCL Nelson = The Kagyu Choeyang Ling Trust

RYBI = Rigdrol Yeshe Buddhist Institute (also known as KCL Christchurch)