become educated about how each of us might contribute in a meaningful way toward making life better for others. “The children are now taking his dream to a new level,” Gibney says. The ones investing the time to better understand the challenges facing those who we are chartered to help will pave the way for others to follow. “The Family’s diverse background will only help to strengthen our foundation and make our grants more effective.”

GOOD ADVICE ➤ “The problem with oral tradition is that family members often have different memories.”
CURTIS W. MEADOWS, JR. PRESIDENT EMERITUS, THE MEADOWS FOUNDATION

DRAWING ON FAMILY CIRCUMSTANCES
Family circumstances can be so powerful that discussion of family values starts right there. Don and Jane O’Keefe have long been personally committed to helping the less fortunate, with special emphasis on children, health, and education of the deaf. With profound conviction, they value the lives of all children with special needs, believing that every child should have a chance at a full life. The idea of a family foundation arose when O’Keefe sold his business and found himself in an unexpectedly favorable financial position. “We have a special interest in the handicapped, since our youngest daughter is deaf and has cerebral palsy,” O’Keefe says.

THINKING創意和广泛
Thinking creatively and expansively is a characteristic of successful business people, of which John Collina is a good example, and it can lead to extraordinary results. He and his wife Nancy formed their Collina Family Foundation without much of any written Family Values, Mission, or Family Involvement Statement. Not long thereafter, their two daughters asked if they could be involved. The daughters were adults, married, with life interests and value systems of their own. Soon the family found itself drawn into a deepening discussion of...