

# Worksheet 1: Motivations

Your motivations are the *inspiration and rationale* behind why you give—the purpose and the aim, the core of why you commit to philanthropy\*. They may change over time. Take time to reflect on these questions about the motivations for your philanthropy. There are no right or wrong answers and it is OK to skip a question if it doesn't feel helpful.

**1. What motivates me to be generous? Why do I care?**

e.g., to help my community to address a known problem; to catalyze social change; to promote family values; tax deductions.

**2. Who were my roles models for generosity when I was young? What did I learn from them?**

e.g., maternal grandmother, a mentor or coach

**3. What life experiences have inspired my philanthropy?**

e.g., battling a disease; receiving financial assistance from others; observing extreme poverty

**4. What am I grateful for now?**

**5. What is my definition of *wealth with responsibility*? What is the purpose of our wealth?**

**6. Beyond money, are there other resources that I have given or could give?**

e.g., strategic advice, artistic skills, board service, personal or professional connections

**7. How would I like to be remembered?**

e.g., benefactor of the poor; patron of the arts; protector of civil liberties

\* *Philanthropy is "voluntary action for the public good." It can be informal and/or formal and include giving, granting, volunteering, investing for social/environmental impact, building social enterprises, advocacy, and/or do other actions.*