When making a bequest, do we have to specify a dollar amount in our wills?

No. Bequests in all amounts are welcome and valuable. Charitable gift annuities require a minimum $10,000 contribution. Charitable remainder trusts are most often established with at least $100,000.

How does life insurance work as a planned gift?

Life insurance policies that are paid up can be given to the Brewster Ladies’ Library. A new or existing policy can also list the Brewster Ladies’ Library as beneficiary, and each year the donor gives the library the funds needed to pay the premium.

Are retirement policies a good planned gift?

Yes, they can be. Upon your death, retirement plan assets may be subject to an estate tax. In some cases, they can be taxed at a combined marginal rate of as high as 65%. By using retirement plan assets to leave a planned gift, you can avoid estate and income taxes and ensure that 100% of the balance of your retirement funds will support the philanthropic objectives you care most deeply about. Also, recent legislation makes it possible for donors age 70 and ½ to use IRA assets to make outright transfers to charity.

What are the best assets to use for a planned gift?

Cash, appreciated securities, real property, insurance policies, retirement plans, and many other assets can be used to fund a gift to the Brewster Ladies’ Library.

Does a planned gift have a minimum financial level?

No. Bequests in all amounts are welcome and valuable. Charitable gift annuities require a minimum $10,000 contribution. Charitable remainder trusts are most often established with at least $100,000.
What is Planned Giving?
Planned giving offers donors the unique opportunities to leave more to their heirs, satisfy philanthropic goals, and retain or increase lifetime income from donated assets. It provides the ability for a donor to reduce or eliminate estate taxes, reduce income taxes, reduce or eliminate capital gains taxes, and save taxes on the sale of a family business. In addition, planned giving can offer creative opportunities for donations—such as by utilizing real estate, tangible personal property and closely held stock. Planned giving also enables the donor to leave a lasting legacy and ensure that their support of the Brewster Ladies’ Library will continue in perpetuity.

Who can make a Planned Gift?
Anyone can make a planned gift, regardless of age, occupation, or financial means.

Why make a Planned Gift?
When you and the Brewster Ladies’ Library work together to establish a planned gift, you leave a lasting legacy and enable the library to advance its work in perpetuity.

What is a deferred gift?
A deferred gift is another term for a planned gift. They are donations that are arranged now but will benefit the Brewster Ladies’ Library after your lifetime. Two common examples are bequests and life insurance.

Will I need a tax advisor to help me set up a planned gift?
The Brewster Ladies’ Library can provide detailed information, including draft language, for your attorney or other advisor regarding any planned gift you are considering. It is recommended, however, that you involve your personal tax or legal advisor at some point in the process.

What is the most popular Planned Gift?
By far, the most popular planned gift is a charitable gift made through your will. It is simple to establish and because it is revocable the donor can make changes at any time.

What are the benefits of planning a gift in a will?
- It helps to maximize available tax, financial and estate benefits.
- It ensures that your personal and financial objectives are met.
- Your property is distributed according to your wishes.
- It enables you to increase your gift potential by looking at other ways of giving.
- You can establish an endowed fund in your name or the name of a loved one.
- It provides a lasting gift to the Brewster Ladies’ Library.