

August is National Make-A-Will Month

Access Free Estate Planning Resources Below

A Note from Amy Towner, CEO...

Dear Reader,

August is National Make-A-Will Month, a timely opportunity to reflect on the importance of planning for the future. Did you know of the 270,379 properties in Ventura County, only 30,203 are currently held in a trust? That means nearly 9 out of 10 properties are not protected. Is your home one of them?



It's easy to understand why estate planning is often postponed. Some think it's only for the wealthy or something to handle later in life. In reality, creating a will and trust is one of the most empowering decisions you can make. It offers peace of mind, reduces legal and financial burdens on loved ones, and ensures your wishes are honored. The financial consequences of not having a plan can be significant. With the average home value in Ventura County approaching \$1,000,000, probate fees

on an unprotected estate can range from \$35,000 to \$70,000. These unnecessary expenses can be avoided with proper planning.

As a Ventura County employee, you and your loved ones can access free, secure, and legally binding estate planning tools with [Giving Docs](#). This is an invaluable resource for anyone who has not yet created a will or trust and wants to plan ahead with confidence.

To further support Ventura County, we've launched quarterly [Estate Planning and Trust Workshops](#). Our first three sessions were attended by nearly 130 Ventura County employees, who heard directly from trusted local industry and County professionals. Each workshop is designed to make the fundamentals of estate planning clear, approachable, and actionable.

We also invite you to consider including a charitable gift in your will or trust. A [planned gift](#) to Health Care Foundation for Ventura County ensures your legacy supports local healthcare benefitting Ventura County residents for generations to come.

This Make-A-Will Month, I encourage you to take that important first step for yourself, for your loved ones, and for the causes that matter most to you. Together, we can create a healthier future for Ventura County.

In philanthropic spirit,



Your Free Will-Writing Resources With Giving Docs

Giving Docs provides **free, legally binding estate planning tools valid in all 50 states**, including wills, codicils, beneficiary designations, durable powers of attorney, and **advance health care directives**. It is an easy and accessible first step for anyone who has not yet created a will or trust.



In Partnership With



Register for the Next Free Estate Planning Workshop

The first three Estate Planning & Trust Workshops were highly successful and received overwhelmingly positive feedback. To **register for an October session**, please click below and select the date of the workshop you'd like to attend. We also encourage you to share this opportunity with your family, friends, or colleagues who may benefit from attending.



[Register](#)

Make a Planned Gift to HCFVC

Consider leaving a lasting legacy through a planned gift to Health Care Foundation for Ventura County. Options include **IRA Charitable Rollovers, Donor Advised Funds, Gifts of Retirement Assets**, and more. Your gift will help strengthen local healthcare for generations to come in Ventura County.



[Planned Giving](#)

3 Ways You Can Support HCFVC Today!



Secure Your Legacy

Make a **\$500 donation** to secure your engraved brick in the VCMC Healing Garden.

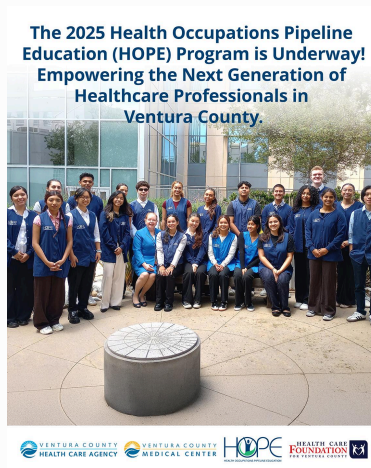
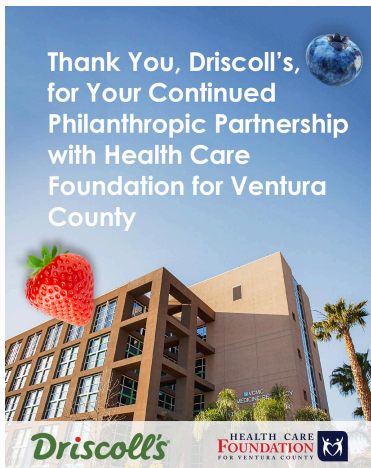
Donate Vacation Hours

Donate up to **40 vacation hours** to **reduce your tax burden** and make a meaningful impact.

Make Your Impact

Make a **one-time or recurring donation** to HCFVC via credit/debit card, PayPal or Venmo!

Invest Local & Get Social! Follow HCFVC on Social Media



This County-wide email has been approved for distribution by the County Executive Office



Contact Us
amy.towner@venturacounty.gov



Health Care Foundation for Ventura County | 3291 Loma Vista Road | Ventura, CA 93003 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)