As a donor, you may be interested in involving your descendants in philanthropic giving. This can often be difficult: they may be occupied with school or work; their focus areas and approaches may differ greatly from yours or from one another’s; or they may not get along with one another. In any event, here are topics and interactive activities to help you engage the next generations in your philanthropy.

1. **Reflect on Family Values**
   Reflecting on values that you hold, or do not hold, in common will help you and your children or grandchildren, etc. (hereafter, family members) develop common ground for your shared philanthropy.

2. **Start a Conversation About Your Past Giving**
   In starting a conversation with your family members about your philanthropy, consider sharing how your life/ experiences led to particular philanthropic interests as well as your giving history with particular organizations. What role has giving played in your life? What philanthropic activities have been most meaningful to you and why?

3. **Set up a “Giving Allowance”**
   Set up a “Giving Allowance” in an amount that you feel would be appropriate to the ages of your family members. Learning by doing provides motivation and experience for the next generation to engage philanthropically.
This activity uses the Issue Cards and Budgeting Coins. To access a free, downloadable sheet of these resources, visit our website: pacscenter.stanford.edu/donorguide.

**Suggested activity format:**

1. Lay out the Issue Cards (found at the end of the *Chapter 1: Finding Your Focus*) on a table. Omit any issues that aren’t relevant to your family members’ age groups, and add any issues you wish using the write-in cards.

2. Ask your family members to select up to three issues that are important to them.

3. Review the back of the cards and circle any specific issues of interest or write in focus areas not listed.

4. Once the issues have been selected, use the Internet or other sources to research organizations involved in the chosen issues.

5. Ask family members to decide on the amount to donate to each issue from their Charity Allowance. It may be helpful to use the EPLI Budgeting Coins. For younger age groups, writing in the amount (even $25 or $100) may be easier to understand than percentages. Decide together how you would like to make the donation (online, check, contact the organization, etc.).