Is it time to review your will?

May 17, 2017

Did you know your will is the clearest statement about your values you’ll ever make? When was the last time you reviewed your will? Does it still communicate the values you hold? Is it up to date?  
  
A change in circumstances like marriages, the birth of children or grandchildren, deaths or just the passage of time often triggers the need to change your will. No estate is too small for a will.  
  
Reviewing your will provides you the opportunity to make sure the people and charitable causes most important to you are supported long after your lifetime. Additionally, a will lets you:  
 - Designate who will act as executor of your estate in probate.  
 - Specify which items of property will go to specific individuals.  
 - Leave property and gifts to charitable organizations.  
 - Carry your values into the future in perpetuity.  
Without a will, the state may decide how your assets are distributed. Your heirs will not get to decide.  
  
To learn more about ways to leave a gift in your will—including the types of assets that could ease the tax burden on your heirs—talk with your legal and financial advisor or contact Alan Penn, executive director at the Ohio District Kiwanis Foundation, odkf.org or director@odkf.org