



Even though astronauts last took steps on the moon in 1972, the imprint from each of their steps remains today. What a tremendous legacy! Those footprints will stand as a reminder of an accomplishment for generations to come.

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## Your Footprints — Your Legacy

All of us leave footprints on the sands of time. Our footprints are made by the imprints of our lives and others. We are remembered for our character, our warmth, our accomplishments, our kindness, our compassion, our values, and our generosity.

When we leave positive impressions behind, we enhance the lives of our friends and loved ones. We give them footprints to follow, it becomes our legacy.

Through thoughtful estate planning, we have an opportunity to leave footprints in the sand to help others recall our priorities. For example, consider the effect of a plan that includes resources for family members and resources for charitable organizations like the Valley City State University Foundation.

An **estate gift** makes a positive statement. When you include the VCSU Foundation in the final disposition of your estate, you declare to your family and friends that you believe in and care about Valley City State University. Your parting gift becomes a clear declaration of your values.

Estate gifts are especially valuable not only because they

tend to be larger than annual gifts, but they often come at critical times. They provide that extra boost to the budget that can make the difference between program advancement or program retrenchment. Estate gifts can be designed for a specific purpose, e.g., scholarship support, or they can be designed to be earmarked to the area of greatest need. They can also fund scholarship endowments that live on in perpetuity to provide ongoing witness of your belief in Valley City State University.

### **Estate Gifts Encourage Others**

There is something about an estate gift that encourages others to go and do the same. Your actions today to include an estate gift for VCSU, may well encourage others to do the same tomorrow.

We encourage you to consider an estate gift to the Valley City State University Foundation. What a great opportunity to leave your footprints in the sand and create your personal legacy.

**For further information on including the VCSU Foundation in your estate plan, contact the VCSU Foundation at 701-845-7203 or visit us on the web at [vcsualumni.org](http://vcsualumni.org).**

# Establishing a Plan That Meets Your

When astronaut Neil Armstrong took the first step on the moon, he famously stated he had taken “one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.”

What made the lunar landing possible? Historians credit President Kennedy and his May 1961 “moonshot” speech to Congress. In the speech, President Kennedy shared a vision of what could be achieved. He set clear goals and established a plan for how the nation could use its talents and resources to win the “space race.”

When it comes to estate planning, you may have your own goals about how to provide for family and leave a legacy. In order to achieve those goals, you may want to apply some key principles from President Kennedy’s moonshot speech.

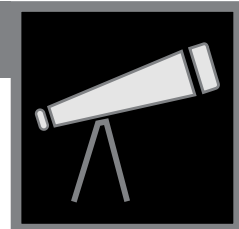


## Identify Your Goals.

President Kennedy established a clear but lofty goal—“**landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to earth.**” When it comes to caring and providing for family, have you identified your own goals? If you are married, how do you want to provide for your spouse? If you have children, do you need a plan that spreads out an inheritance?

## Think Big.

Have you ever heard the phrase “**moonshot thinking**”? It refers to an ambitious, even audacious, way of “thinking big.” To reach the moon, President Kennedy explained that the United States would need advanced communication and weather observation technology. The moonshot led to the development of new innovations and changed the world in ways that make a big difference today. By including a gift to our organization in your estate plan, you too can make a difference.



## Take Small Steps.

To win the space race, the president set forth smaller steps the nation could take to **achieve the larger goal.** Estate planning may seem daunting. To make planning easier, break the process into smaller pieces. You can start by contacting our office and requesting a **free** copy of our Estate Planning Guide. This guide will explain the estate planning process, breaking it down into smaller more manageable pieces.

# Priorities

Even though astronauts last took steps on the moon in 1972, because of a lack of atmosphere the imprint from each of their steps remains today and will for potentially 100 million more years. What a tremendous legacy! Those footprints will stand as a reminder of a tremendous accomplishment for generations to come.

If you are looking for a way to leave your own legacy, you can do so by leaving a gift to support students at VCSU. A popular way many people choose to support students is with an endowed gift. An endowment is a special fund in which the principal is invested in perpetuity and never used. The interest earnings support the annual scholarship allocation. Endowments are an excellent way to honor or memorialize a loved one, teacher, coach or your family.

With an endowed gift, students will continue to benefit from your gift year after year. As with footprints on the moon, an endowed gift can help you maximize the impact of your legacy to ensure your generosity lives on for generations. To learn more about ways establishing an endowment, contact the VCSU Foundation Office at 701-845-7203.



## What Is Your **BACKUP PLAN?**

When it comes to estate planning, you may want a backup plan, including for determining who will inherit your retirement, investment and bank accounts. For example, you may want to leave your accounts to your spouse, if you are married, or another loved one. But what will happen if that individual is not available to inherit your accounts?

A solution is to obtain a beneficiary designation form from your bank or account custodian and name your loved one as the primary beneficiary and our organization as a contingent beneficiary. This puts in place a plan to provide for your loved ones as well as a backup plan that has the potential to support our cause.

**You can designate a beneficiary on many of your accounts in just a few minutes . . . avoiding months or years of probate.**



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## *Accept the Challenge!*

### **NORTH DAKOTA CHALLENGE FUND MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM**

The 2019 North Dakota Legislature has once again created a Challenge Fund Matching Grant Program. VCSU has been allocated up to \$700,000 in matching dollars to be awarded if the foundation can raise \$1,400,00 in private dollars. The VCSU Foundation is using this program to enhance more than 225 scholarship endowment funds. As you can see by the chart below, your donation can become an even bigger gift with the Challenge Fund Match. In addition with the Endowment Tax Credit, your net cost is reduced to a little over 21% of the total donation. Pledges for the matching dollars are allowed up to seven years. Also available is leveraging a portion of your estate to receive the matching dollars: contact our office for details.

<b>GIFT AMOUNT</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>	<b>\$50,000</b>
State Match	\$2,500	\$12,500	\$25,000
Total Gift to VCSU	\$7,500	\$37,500	\$75,000
<b>NET COST OF GIFT</b> (after N.D. endowment tax credit)	<b>\$3,000</b>	<b>\$15,000</b>	<b>\$30,000</b>

Take advantage and utilize both the N.D. Tax Credit and the matching fund while making your gift to VCSU. Please consider making a gift today, and as always, this information is provided for educational purposes only. Please consult your own attorney, accountant or financial advisor for advice on your individual situation.

**Make your gift today! Call us at 800.532.8641 x37203 or visit us online at [www.vcsualumni.org](http://www.vcsualumni.org).**