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Adding a Gift to Your Will Using a Codicil

If you would like to add a gift to BOSP (Brighter Opportunities for Special People) in your existing will, you can easily do so by using a codicil. A codicil is a supplement to a will that can make changes or amends and allow additions to part of that will.

Simply complete the attached codicil form, sign it in the presence of two witnesses, and keep it with your existing will (see next page for solicitor approved 'signing instructions').

If you have made more than one will, it is important to ensure that this codicil relates to your most recent will. It is also important, to avoid confusion, to identify clearly whether this is the first codicil to your will, second, third and so forth.

We particularly recommend that you consult a solicitor if your will already has a codicil(s). We also advise you to seek legal advice if you are making substantial changes to your will, for example leaving a gift of residue (i.e. leaving what is left in your estate to someone after specific gifts have been given to beneficiaries).

Creating a new will is the best way to avoid any errors or disputes if you are looking to modify your existing will. Should you require any further information, please contact our Fundraising and Development Officer on 01268 553117 or email <u>enquiries@bosp.co.uk</u> All enquiries will be treated in confidence.

BOSP and its employees are not qualified to give legal advice. If you are worried about how best to draft a will or codicil, we do recommend you obtain professional advice from a solicitor with experience in wills and probate.

How to Complete Your Codicil

Following these instructions carefully will help to make sure that your codicil is not invalid in any way.

Please ensure that you sign the codicil form in the presence of two independent witnesses.

The BOSP Office, Wat Tyler Country Park, Pitsea Hall Lane, Pitsea, Basildon SS16 4UH T: 01268 553117 E: enquiries@bosp.co.uk

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No beneficiary or executor of your will (or anyone who is married to, or in a civil partnership with, a beneficiary or executor) can be a witness.

Witnesses do not have any right to see what is in the codicil unless you choose to show them.

- 1. Date the bottom of the codicil form.
- 2. Sign your name in the presence of the two witnesses. Ask them to sign and write their names, addresses and occupations on the codicil. All of you must be present while each of you signs.
- 3. Keep the codicil in a safe place with, but not attached to, your current will.
- 4. Send or give a copy of the will and codicil (in a sealed envelope, if you prefer) to your executor or a trusted friend. Indicate with a note where the originals are held. It is important that the original will and codicil are kept together and that those who have a copy of your will also have a copy of the codicil. This will minimise the potential for later confusion.

We thank you for thinking of BOSP. Your support is very much appreciated.

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