



GEORGE W. BUSH
PRESIDENTIAL CENTER

A FINANCIAL, ESTATE, AND GIFT PLANNING NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2020

Freedom Hall SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



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A Bridge to Hope *Staff Spotlight: Joseph Kim*

Nearly 3 million people died from hunger during the 1990s famine in North Korea. Out of sheer desperation, many tried to escape to China to provide food for their loved ones. The price for wanting to live was expensive. Many were publicly executed and tortured. But a desire to live is not a crime. In fact, the “right to life” is the most basic human right.

Joseph Kim’s father was one of those 3 million. He died when Joseph was just 12 years old.

Today, Joseph is an Assistant and Expert in Residence on the Human Freedom Initiative team at the George W. Bush Institute. In February 2006, he escaped from North Korea to China. He slept in mountains and villages and begged for food to survive. A few weeks later, he reached a city called Yanji.

As Joseph was crossing a bridge in Yanji, it started to snow, and everyone started walking very fast. He vividly remembered

envying those who were walking fast because it meant they had a place to call home. He wanted to walk fast but couldn’t; he had no place to go.

“It was the longest bridge I have ever crossed in my life,” Joseph said.

In 2006 in China, Joseph connected with an international nonprofit called Liberty in North Korea (LiNK). A year later, he left China for the United States and claimed refugee status under the North Korean Human Rights Act signed by President George W. Bush in 2004. This significance was not lost on him when he joined the Bush Institute in 2019.

In 2013, Joseph delivered a TED Talk on the importance of hope. In 2015, he published a memoir titled *Under the Same Sky*.

“Hope is personal. Hope is something that no one can give to you. ...
You have to choose to believe in it. You have to make it yourself.”

—JOSEPH KIM



Legislation Update: *SECURE Act + CARES Act*

The SECURE Act, effective January 1, 2020, implements the most significant changes to retirement plans since 2006, including:

- Eliminating the age restrictions on contributing to your IRA
- Changing the age to begin taking required minimum distributions from 70½ to 72
- Changes to withdrawal limitations for most non-spousal IRA beneficiaries

The CARES Act, effective March 27, 2020, provides a few key provisions for your charitable goals, including:

- A new charitable deduction
- A temporary suspension of required minimum distributions for 2020
- An opportunity for those who itemize

Have questions? Contact us and/or your financial advisor to learn more.

A Little Goes a Long Way

Support Your Passions With Less

Times of economic volatility can have a profound effect on how we think about the future for ourselves and our loved ones. It can be difficult to consider charitable gifts when you aren't sure what your financial future looks like.

We understand your passion for the work of the Bush Center runs deep, and we want you to know that you can make a difference without giving up peace of mind. How?

Consider percentage giving. By leaving a portion of your estate to us, you ensure the Bush Center's future but aren't obligated to give up any assets now. Percentage giving is simple and flexible, allowing you to provide for the people and places you hold most dear.

Smart Ways to Give

- **Your Will:** Specify a percentage of your total estate for the Bush Center. A remainder percentage provides what is left over after all other claims and considerations are settled.
- **Your Retirement Plan:** Name the Bush Center as primary or contingent beneficiary of all or part of your retirement plan assets to advance policy and cultivate leaders.
- **Your Life Insurance Policy:** Designate a percentage of your life insurance policy be transferred to the Bush Center as primary or contingent beneficiary after your lifetime.

Every Gift Matters

No matter the percentage of your gift, your support helps solve the most pressing challenges of today—and tomorrow. Please contact Dee Rindt at the Bush Center at 214.200.4384 or Donorservices@bushcenter.org to learn more.

How Your Estate Plan Helps Others Plan

Talking about estate planning may be uncomfortable, but it's critically important. Your estate plan serves as a testament to who you are, your values, and your legacy.

Communicating your plan clearly and honestly with your loved ones gives you and them peace of mind. By making your future plans known, you're not only ensuring your wishes are carried out, you're helping your loved ones plan for their futures as well.

If you've included a gift to the Bush Center in your estate plan, please let us know. More than half of people who leave charitable gifts in their wills do not notify the organization, leaving the charity at risk for not receiving the gift they intended.

When you tell the Bush Center about your gift, you also join a committed group of supporters in our Freedom Hall Society. Like your loved ones, knowing your intentions helps us plan for our future, so we can continue sustaining the guiding principles of President and Mrs. Bush for generations to come.



Our FREE resource *Your Family's Guide to Your Estate* can help you go into family conversations prepared. Use it to compile important information and help your loved ones locate documents in the future. To request your complimentary copy, fill out and return the enclosed reply form.

4 Digital Ways to Connect With the Bush Center

1. Insights Series

★ **What:** An exclusive hour-long conversation, via Zoom or a similar platform, with newsmakers, thought leaders, and policy and industry experts.

👤 **Who:** Past participants include Karl Rove, Victor Cha, and Nikki Haley.

🔔 **Join:** Insights Series calls are only open to Bush Center members. To learn more, email Donorservices@bushcenter.org.

2. Engage at the Bush Center, presented by Highland Capital Management

★ **What:** Thought-provoking and entertaining discussions allow guests to connect with newsmakers, thought leaders, and authors in meaningful ways.

👤 **Who:** Past participants include Jay Leno, Jenna Bush Hager, Barbara Pierce Bush, Dr. Condoleezza Rice, and Dr. Anthony Fauci.

▶ **Watch:** www.bushcenter.org/engage

3. The Strategerist

★ **What:** A podcast that highlights leadership and compassion.

👤 **Who:** Special guests include Carly Fiorina, Robert Gates, Clayton Kershaw, and President and Mrs. Bush.

👍 **Subscribe:** www.bushcenter.org/strategerist

4. The Catalyst

★ **What:** A non-partisan, quarterly digital publication operating from the belief that ideas matter. Each issue presents compelling essays addressing a central question or theme.

👤 **Who:** Bush Institute directors and fellows, leading experts and writers, and new and rising voices share ways for America to become a stronger, more prosperous, and caring country.

📖 **Read:** www.bushcenter.org/catalyst



All in This Together

Staff Fundraising at the Bush Center

This spring, the Bush Center team pooled resources to donate more than \$40,000 to two Bush Center Trailblazer Award winning organizations: Get Shift Done, North Texas Food Bank's novel effort to provide labor support, and Genesis Women's Shelter & Support.

The Bush Center's donation to Get Shift Done/North Texas Food Bank equals approximately 38 weeks of wages for hospitality workforce members displaced from their jobs by COVID-19. Any funds remaining after the crisis will be used to support nonprofit organizations that provide workforce development and hunger relief.

The donation to Genesis Women's Shelter & Support helps answer the call for many immediate needs and will be used to provide meals, clothing, counseling sessions, legal services, or other needs for women and children in North Texas.

The Bush Center hopes these contributions will keep more members of our community healthy and safe during this difficult time.

"We all stand firmly in support of two great local organizations serving our community," said Ken Hersh, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Bush Center.



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