January 12, 2016

The Giving Pledge

It is with great pride and pleasure that we join the Giving Pledge and commit more than half of our wealth during our lifetime, or as planned gifts, to not-for-profit causes.

We recognize that we are privileged to have been born in the twentieth century in the United States of America under circumstances that allowed us to earn and accumulate wealth -- and that with that privilege comes responsibility.

We commend Warren Buffett and Bill and Melinda Gates for their leadership in this effort, and as exemplars of Alexis de Tocqueville's observation of America's happy impulse to work together to improve the common life by forming voluntary associations. This uniquely American art of association, tempers one's tendencies toward individualism and gives one a habit and taste for serving others.

It is in this same spirit and habit of service that we join the Giving Pledge.

Robert Kogod

Arlene Kogod