

THIS MESSAGE IS
FOR THOSE OF US
WHO ARE 70½+
YEARS OLD AND
HAVE AN IRA.

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

MARK PRATT

Like most of us, I have been donating to St. Matthew's House and other charities over the years by writing a check or using my credit card online. Some of you may be way ahead of me, but it has finally occurred to me that I'm making these contributions with tax-paid dollars.

This means that if I'm in the 24% tax bracket and want to donate \$1,000 to St. Matthew's House, I have to pay tax on \$1,316 to net the \$1,000 that I donate. I could, instead, make a direct charitable distribution from my IRA that is not taxed at all and counts toward my Required Minimum Distribution. This means I could afford to give St. Matthew's House more, since I'm paying with untaxed dollars. I think this would be known technically as a "no-brainer!"

Check with your investment manager
and learn more about using your IRA
to support your favorite causes.

To learn more about all of the ways
you can make a gift to St. Matthew's
House, contact Sharon Sparrow,
Director of Donor Advising,
ssparrow@stmatthewshouse.org
or call 239-228-2055

To make it even easier, my IRA manager has given me special checks which, when made payable to a qualified charity, make a tax-free distribution from my IRA.

by Mark Pratt

