

# NEWSLETTER

**ELEMENT WEALTH PLANNING**

FALL 2025



## Note from Glenn Sweeten, CFP®, CPFA®

The fourth quarter is a busy time of year both for us and for our clients. Medicare Open Enrollment, also known as the Annual Enrollment Period, is a yearly period from October 15 to December 7 when those on Medicare can change their health and prescription drug plans for the upcoming year. For those still working, you may be able to make benefit elections for your employee benefit plan for the next calendar year. Also, for those aged 73 or older (and some people with Inherited IRAs) Required Minimum Distributions from traditional IRAs need to be taken by the end of the year. We've provided some education on these topics and more in this newsletter, but as always, if you have questions, we're here to help.



## BREAKING DOWN THE PARTS OF MEDICARE

Generally, the different parts of Medicare help cover specific services. Most beneficiaries choose to receive their Parts A and B benefits through Original Medicare, the traditional fee-for-service program offered directly through the federal government. It is sometimes called Traditional Medicare or Fee-for-Service (FFS) Medicare. Under Original Medicare, the government pays directly for the health care services you receive. You can see any doctor and hospital that takes Medicare (and most do) anywhere in the country.

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# KEY COMPONENTS OF A FINANCIAL PLAN

Just as every individual is unique, so is every financial plan. Each person, couple, or entity, may have unique goals and aspirations, along with financial resources.

Our goal is to create a comprehensive strategy that gives our clients the highest probability of success in achieving their long-term and short-term goals.

This means that we will analyze all of our client's different components to make sure that each area of focus is addressed and creates cohesion to work towards their aspirations.

## KEY COMPONENTS OF FINANCIAL PLAN



### ESTATE

- TODs, Beneficiaries
- Right Documents in Place (Will, Trust, POAs, Health Care)
- Charitable Endeavors



### PROTECTION

- Property & Casualty Coverage
  - Liability
- Life Insurance
- Long Term Care
- Disability



### FAMILY

- Education Funding
  - Elder Care
- Budgeting & Cash Flow Planning
  - Debt Management
  - Emergency Funds



### HEALTH

- Medicare
- HSAs
- Healthcare Plans



### RETIREMENT

- Income Planning
- Income Management
- Social Security Planning



### BUSINESS

- Employer Benefits & Retirement Plans
- Business Owner Succession Planning



### INVESTMENT

- Risk Management
- Wealth Management
- Wealth Accumulation



### TAX

- Tax Planning
- Tax Efficiency

# CARING FOR AGING PARENTS

Thanks to healthier lifestyles and advances in modern medicine, the worldwide population over age 65 is growing. In the past decade, the population of Americans aged 65 and older has grown 38%. As our nation ages, many Americans are turning their attention to caring for aging parents.

For many people, one of the most difficult conversations to have involves talking with an aging parent about extended medical care. The shifting of roles can be challenging, and emotions often prevent important information from being exchanged and critical decisions from being made.



When talking to a parent about future care, it's best to have a strategy for structuring the conversation. Here are some key concepts to consider.

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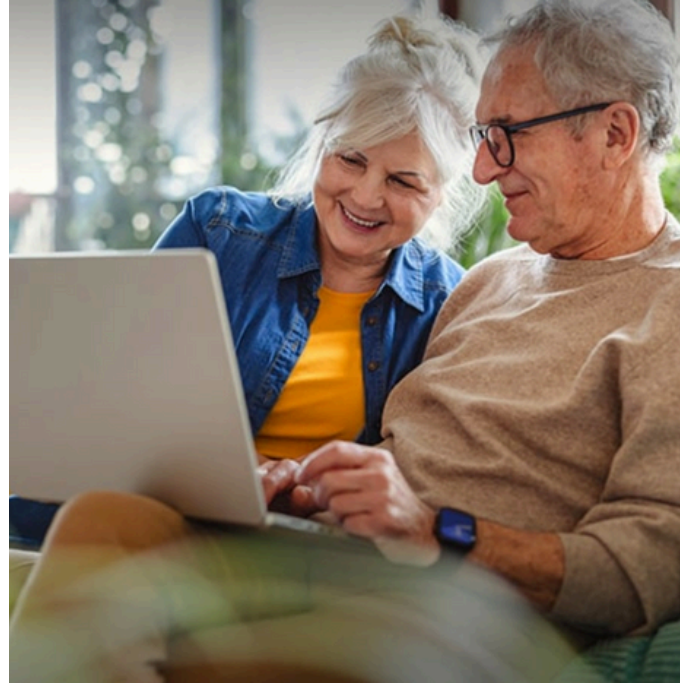
# QUALIFIED CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS

As you build your legacy, considering how to leverage your charitable contributions can be a fulfilling endeavor. Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) can offer an opportunity to support your favorite causes and manage your retirement income. Here are some factors to consider with QCDs and how they've changed based on recent legislation, such as the SECURE Act.

A Qualified Charitable Distribution allows individuals aged 70½ or older to donate directly from specific retirement accounts to qualified charities without recognizing the distribution as taxable income. Such distributions can help you manage your required minimum distributions (RMDs), which are required starting at age 73.

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Remember, this article is for informational purposes only and is not a replacement for real-life advice. We encourage you to consult with your tax, legal, and accounting professionals before modifying your retirement income strategy.



# HEALTHCARE COSTS IN RETIREMENT



In a 2025 survey, only 41% of all workers had calculated how much money they would need to pay for medical expenses in retirement. Being aware of potential healthcare costs during retirement may allow you to understand what you can pay for and what you can't.

## Healthcare Breakdown:

A retired household faces three types of healthcare expenses:

- The premiums for Medicare Part B (which covers physician and outpatient services) and Part D (which covers drug-related expenses). Typically, Part B and Part D are taken out of a person's Social Security check before it is mailed, so the premium cost is often overlooked by retirement-minded individuals.

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# WHAT'S NEW FOR SOCIAL SECURITY

Whether you're applying for Social Security in the future or currently receiving benefits, there are some important changes to earnings limits, Medicare premiums, and other differences to keep in mind. Ready to learn more? Read on.

## Ready for a Cost-of-Living (COLA) increase?

That's right! Due to an increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI-W), the Social Security Administration (SSA) has made a 2.5-percent COLA Adjustment.

## What about Tax Caps?

Employees everywhere will be happy to hear that the cap on wages subject to Social Security withholdings has increased to \$176,100.

[LEARN MORE](#)



# UPCOMING EVENTS

**04**  
OCT

## WINGS & WHEELS

Stop by & stay hello at our information table. Family friendly event with WWII & military aircraft, classic cars, vendors, entertainment & kid activities.

**Delaware Coastal Airport • Georgetown**

**15**  
OCT

## MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT

Medicare Open Enrollment Period for 2026 runs from October 15, 2025 to December 7, 2025 during which you can change your plan coverage effective January 1, 2026.

**12**  
NOV

## CLIENT EVENT: CRAFT NIGHT

Fun night of creating a one-of-a-kind sea glass holiday tree. All supplies included. Light refreshments.

**Georgetown Library • Georgetown** (More details to follow)

**11**  
DEC

## HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

Join us for our annual holiday open house at our Georgetown office. Always a great time with friends.

**120 S. Bedford Street • Georgetown** (More details to follow)



**DON'T MISS A THING!**



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