

Trusts & Trust Services

Helping plans go according to plan



Trust Services

WHAT IS A TRUST?

A Will Is Not The Only Way

We know that while you can't predict the future, you can prepare for it. Which is why, unlike a will, a Revocable Living Trust is the preferred legal documentation representing how, when and to whom you want your assets distributed upon your death or in the event of your incapacity, no matter how big or small your estate. A trust is established during your lifetime in order to avoid costly probate, lengthy conservatorship proceedings, and to preserve family harmony after you're gone.



Today marks the largest intergenerational wealth transfer in history with \$30 trillion in assets projected to pass from boomers to their heirs in the United States alone. Yet 60% of American adults don't have an estate plan.

Benefits of a Trust



A living trust avoids probate, costly and time-consuming court proceedings held to oversee the collection, appraisal and distribution of your assets



A living trust can take effect upon your incapacity, not just death



A living trust can protect your assets from beneficiary misuse



A living trust can protect beneficiaries from elder financial abuse



A living trust can preserve family harmony when administered by a corporate trustee who is objective and staffed with legal and investment professionals whose legal duty is to act in the best interest of your beneficiaries.

Who Needs a Trust & Why



Preserving Family Harmony

Those looking to preserve family harmony after they're gone



Loved One With Special Needs

Those with a loved one with special needs must plan carefully to preserve eligibility for government benefits



Children From Former Relationship

Those who are married with kids from a previous relationship must plan ahead to protect biological children from disinheritance



Irresponsible Loved Ones

Those with irresponsible loved ones who are looking to reduce the likelihood of his or her inheritance being squandered



Planning For Incapacity

Without an estate plan in place, a judge will decide who will take control of your assets in the event of mental or physical incapacity



No/Distant Kids

Those with no/distant kids must plan ahead to ensure financial affairs are managed upon death and incapacity

Your Peace of Mind is Always on Our Mind

During your lifetime, you serve as the trustee of your trust, provided you have mental capacity. You must also designate a back-up trustee, who—upon your death or incapacity—must step into your shoes and manage trust assets for your benefit or that of your loved ones. You can choose almost anyone to serve as your back-up trustee - a family member, a friend, an accountant or a corporate trustee, like Members Trust Company.

Benefits of a Corporate Trustee



Objectivity. Losing a loved one is a painful experience that can affect the mind and body. A corporate trustee has the emotional sensitivity to handle legal and financial matters and communicate to beneficiaries effectively.



Family Harmony. The loss of a loved one can also fuel family conflict. A corporate trustee is fair, objective and staffed with legal and investment professionals who have an obligation to act in the best interest of your beneficiaries.



Peace of Mind. A corporate trustee is regularly audited to ensure the appropriate policies and procedures are in place for proper trust administration.

WHAT A TRUSTEE DOES

Possible Post-Death Actions



Collect & Appraise Assets
Collect assets; conduct appraisals to determine total value



Secure & Sell Property
Change locks on trust properties; possibly prepare for sale



Communicate Often
Provide written notice to beneficiaries



Notify Creditors
Notify creditors of decedent's death; pay debts



File Taxes
File income taxes and federal death taxes if necessary



Provide Accountings
Provide accountings to beneficiaries



Distribute Assets
Distribute remaining assets to beneficiaries



Successor Trustee

TRANSFERRING YOUR TRUST

Your Best Interest Is What We Do Best

Members Trust Company can partner with you in various ways to minimize your risk and maximize your peace of mind: serving as trustee; acting as investment manager; functioning as custodian and bookkeeper; acting as the administrator; and serving as co-trustee with you. Our Trust Transfer Service offers you access to attorneys and investment officers to review your trust. We analyze trust provisions, investments and current administration to help determine whether a change in trustee is in your best interest. We will contact your bank or trustee, prepare the necessary documents to make the transfer and keep you informed throughout the entire process.



Our promise—and mandate—is to always act in our clients' best interest, always.



There's a Reason Trust is Our Middle Name™

Our mission is to help credit union members and private clients protect their hard-earned assets, achieve their financial aspirations and ensure their financial legacy thrives.

Founded in 1987 by America's Credit Unions for credit unions, their members and the general public, Members Trust Company is the first national trust and investment firm providing financial stewardship, investment and trust services with "Main Street" member-centric value *and values*...even for non-credit union accounts. This means we pick up the phone when you call, we treat you and your family as if you were our own, and that doing the right thing is more than our thing, it's our mandate.

With our Main Street values comes Wall Street expertise...without the ego or exorbitant fees. Our team of investment professionals hold the highest Chartered Financial Analyst® designation and have been continually recognized in the industry as innovators and subject matter experts in trust and investment solutions, big and small.



Trust Services

Corporate Office:
110 South Main St.
South Bend, IN 46601

(800) 552-4745

tcunet.com

Corporate Office:
14055 Riveredge Drive
Suite 525 | Tampa, FL 33637

(888) 727-9191
Local: (813) 631-9191
Fax: (813) 631-9898

MembersTrust.com



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