

Baby News: It's a Boy!

We are proud to announce the birth of Isaac - born to Evon Mendrin and his wife, Natasha. He was born on May 3, 2019, weighing 9 lbs. 1 oz., and was 22 inches long. Both mother and Isaac are doing great, and the family couldn't be happier. Congratulations to Evon and Natasha on the first addition to their family!



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Paraplanner Article
*Just what the Doctor
(er, Financial Planner)
ordered*

Paraplanner Article: Just what the Doctor (er, Financial Planner) ordered

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Are you financially healthy? Financial health, like physical health, is a measure of where you are relative to standard guidelines and personal goals. Knowing your financial health is just a small part of a life-long journey to maintain it. Through your journey, there will be good days, stagnant days, and some days you just want to go back to bed and start over tomorrow.

Following some basic guidelines can help measure where you are, and monitor your progress.

1. Find a Doctor: As with the medical field, there is much information on the internet to assist with your financial health. There are websites that provide advice, offer at-home solutions, and lead you to believe that no matter what, you will never be able to retire. As helpful as these resources are, there are some situations where you need advice and support from a professional. You may need advice from an Accountant, Insurance Agent, Attorney, or Investment Advisor. As our clients, you know that we take a team approach to your finances, and work alongside other professionals, to help you maintain your financial health.
2. Measure your Vitals: Understanding where you stand is an important first step, as well as a step you revisit periodically. For this you should look at your net worth, debt to income ratio, budget, and think about your financial goals. We use software to compile and interpret your information, to measure where you stand. However, there are many tools and resources available to use at home. Some banks, like EECU, have resources within their

online banking tools to help with this. There are also websites and software you can use to collect and track information from multiple accounts, like Mint or Quicken.

3. Assess your Health: Once your “vitals” are taken, you are able to see where you are “healthy” and where you can improve. Our initial meetings and retirement projections help us assess and reassess your health periodically. This is where each person’s journey is different. Some need to pay off debt, purchase insurance, or save for retirement. Others focus more on their spending habits, retirement goals, or how their money will survive them.
4. Plan of Action: Now that you have assessed your health, it is time to develop a plan to work towards your goals, and prepare for life’s surprises. This may be easier said than done. However, breaking down a big goal into small pieces can help you stay motivated. It is important to reassess periodically, and adjust your plan accordingly. You cannot set it and forget it when it comes to your financial health.
5. Regular Checkups: Remember that Doctor? It is helpful to have check-ins with your professional advisors. It is nice to have someone to call, who knows your financial history and can give personal advice as things change. We recommend semi-annual or annual checkups to monitor how things are going. However, if something comes up, you can always call or email us to chat and adjust your plan, if necessary.

So back to the initial question, are you financially healthy? We hope you leave your next checkup with a clean bill of financial health.
