



Retirement Ready

Prepare Hard, Finish Easy! by Marty Kaiser, Senior Executive Vice President; Financial Advisory Group Manager

Are you ready for retirement? This is definitely a loaded question with a moving target. It can go so many directions. So, to be more specific, are you financially prepared to retire? Like many goals, success comes from a lot of preparation. It is the same for achieving your retirement financial goals. Here are some tips to consider:

- Create a Plan Saving for retirement is about the journey, not the destination. It is not a get rich quick scheme but rather a methodical, deliberate process. You need to be flexible, review your progress regularly and make sacrifices. Saving for retirement is not instant gratification but rather delayed gratification. It doesn't seem like much when you start, but before you know it, you are well on your way.
- Start Saving Early As soon as you start working, sign up for the company retirement plan or, if they don't have one, set up an IRA with Springs Valley. "You can't control the markets, but you can control how much you save. Saving enough, and saving consistently, are important habits to achieve long-term financial goals," says Ann Dowd, Fidelity Vice President & CFP. Saving early beats saving more later in life due to the power of compounding growth.
- Make Saving for Retirement a Priority Experts say you should save 12-15% of your income to help you reach your retirement goals. Of course, everyone has a different idea of how much money they will need each year in retirement. The average retiree will need at least 70% of his or her preretirement income to provide for needs in retirement. Social security will only replace about 25-30% of your preretirement income so your personal savings and tax advantaged retirement accounts will need to cover the difference.
- Investing your Retirement Money Use professional guidelines to help you determine how to investment your money. Diversify your portfolio by blending growth and value stocks, large-cap and small-cap stocks, and long-term and short-term bonds. Avoid putting large portions of your retirement money in just a few stocks. As a rule, do not put more than 5% of your retirement money in one stock. Use mutual funds and ETFs (exchange-traded fund = a type of investment fund that is traded on a stock exchange) to fully diversity your portfolio. Most retirement plans have a target based Mutual Fund (an investment program funded by shareholders that trades in diversified holdings and is professionally managed) which help manage risk by automatically making changes to your investments as you near retirement age. Finally, stay the course: Don't jump in and out of the market. Don't try to time the market. Your goal should be to have a return similar to the index benchmarks. Make changes based on your age and the quality of the funds you are using.
- Use Retirement Tools to Project your Retirement Balance Review your plan with Springs Valley each year and use the calculators available at fa.svbt.bank to see if you are on course and make changes accordingly. If you are behind, consider increasing your savings and/or increasing your risk. Also, review your anticipated social security benefits to see how much you will receive based on the age you plan to retire. Seek professional help as needed to get a second opinion. Springs Valley Financial Advisory Group is here for you and prepared to give your retirement plan a check-up.

In summary, applying a famous Chinese proverb to retirement:

When is the best time to save for retirement? The day you start your first full time job. When is the next best time? Today.

Welcome To Our Team











Springs Valley Welcomes Zach Brown

Springs Valley Bank & Trust Company is pleased to welcome Zach Brown as a Business Banker. Zach is from Paoli, Indiana and graduated from Paoli Community High School. Following graduation, Zach immediately joined the United States Marine Corps, where he spent five years on active duty, during which he served two tours in Afghanistan. After completing military service, Zach was offered the position as manager at the French Lick Airport. During this time, Zach worked to earn a BA in Business Leadership from Ashford University and an M.B.A with a specialization in finance. Recently, Zach has worked as the Executive Director for the Orange County Development Partnership and has earned a certificate from Oklahoma Universities Economic Development Institute.

"I am thrilled to be joining a team whose corporate mission and values allow me to continue making a positive impact for businesses within the communities that Springs Valley serves" said Brown.

Zach is currently serving as a member of the Orange County Council and is a member of Elon Christian Church. He resides in French Lick with his

wife, Nikita, and two sons, Cutler and Carston.

"We are excited to have Zach join our team of banking professionals," said Craig Buse, SEVP & CLO. "We look forward to seeing all he can do to help us by carrying out our mission to meet the needs of the communities we serve."



Mr. Brown will be serving Orange and surrounding counties. He can be reached by cell at 812.797.6724, in the office at 812.936.5681, or by eMail at zbrown@svbt.bank. His primary office will be located at the Valley Banking Center, at 8482 West State Road 56 in French Lick, Indiana 47432.

Springs Valley Donates \$1,000 to Youth First, Inc.

"Springs Valley admires Youth First's commitment to helping improve the lives of others within local communities" noted Jamie Shinabarger, President & CEO. "We are ecstatic to have the opportunity to work with an organization like Youth First and are looking forward to seeing all they will continue to do to help those in the community flourish."

"Youth First is grateful for this heartwarming support from Springs Valley Bank & Trust. We are both invested in supporting Indiana youth throughout Daviess, Dubois, Gibson and Orange counties. Caring relationships are even more important today as the world navigates the uncertainties of the pandemic. Students, families, and educators

count on Youth First to continue caring for kids in school buildings and remotely to buoy their mental health and well-being during extraordinarily stressful times. This kind of confidence and trust is earned through years of relationship-building and a track record of results that make Youth First well-positioned to identify and address the social and emotional needs of thousands of school-aged children no matter the circumstances," says Julie Hoon, Youth First Vice President of Philanthropy.

Supporting Youth First aligns with Springs Valley's mission to enhance the quality of life in our communities. Youth First's mission is to

strengthen youth communities through evidence-based programs that prevent substance abuse, promote healthy behaviors, and maximize student success. Youth First partners with 91 schools across 11 Indiana counties to provide 65 Master's level social workers who assess needs, develop and implement prevention plans, and connect students and their families to vital resources. Youth First also offers community programs involving parents and caregivers to strengthen families. For more information about Youth First, please visit youthfirstinc.org.



Pictured left to right: Becky Jessmer, Jamie Shinabarger, Springs Valley President & CEO, Julie M. Hoon

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