

Family Enhanced Planning Conversation Guide

Purpose: This guide is designed to help facilitate thoughtful, open, and respectful conversations between parents and their adult children regarding how they would like to inherit and steward family assets. These questions are intended to encourage clarity, shared understanding, and alignment with family values.

General Values & Intentions

- What does financial security mean to you personally?
- How do you define fairness when it comes to dividing family assets?
- Are there any personal goals or life plans that should be considered in estate distribution?
- How comfortable are you with managing financial or physical assets independently?

Land & Real Estate Assets

- Do you have interest in owning or co-owning family land or property?
- Would you prefer to keep land in the family long-term or consider selling it?
- How would you feel about shared ownership with siblings, and what challenges do you foresee?
- Are you prepared for the responsibilities (taxes, maintenance, management) associated with land ownership?
- Would you have a preference for a specific property, if applicable?

Primary Residence (Family Home)

- What does the family home mean to you (emotional vs. financial value)?
- Would you prefer the home be retained within the family or sold?
- Is anyone interested in living in or maintaining the home?
- If one sibling keeps the home, how should others be treated fairly?
- How should ongoing costs such as maintenance, taxes, or renovations be handled if shared?

Non-Retirement Financial Assets

- Would you prefer a lump sum inheritance or structured distributions over time?
- How confident do you feel managing investments or liquid assets?
- Would you value guidance or professional oversight in managing inherited assets?
- Are there priorities (education, home purchase, business, etc.) that should guide how funds are distributed?
- How important is flexibility versus structure in accessing inherited assets?

Retirement Assets (IRAs, 401(k)s, etc.)

- What is your current understanding of how inherited retirement accounts work?
- Would you prefer immediate access to inherited retirement funds, or a strategy that extends distributions over time?
- How important is tax efficiency when deciding how these assets are distributed?
- Would you value professional guidance when making decisions on inherited retirement assets?
- Are there long-term goals (retirement, education, legacy planning) that should influence how these assets are handled?
- How comfortable are you coordinating inherited retirement assets with your broader financial plan?

Communication & Family Harmony

- How can we ensure transparency and understanding among all siblings?
 - What concerns do you have about potential conflicts, and how can they be addressed early?
 - How often would you like to revisit or update these conversations?
 - What role should family values play in financial decisions across generations?
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Disclosure:

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