

What Are Your Parents' Expectations?



Source: 2016 Fidelity® Investments Family and Finance Study.

What are Your Parents' Expectations for the Future?

Here's a shocker: parents and children don't always communicate effectively. In 2016, more than two-thirds of parents who participated in a financial survey said they expected one of their children to help manage their finances during retirement. When the survey asked adult children about the responsibility, more than one-third said they weren't aware of their parents' expectations.¹



The majority of parents (72%) also thought one of their children would become a caregiver in the future. Forty percent of the children who were expected to become caregivers were unaware of it.¹

The survey results highlight the importance of engaging your parents and siblings in discussions about retirement. That may mean persuading everyone to set aside time for face-to-face meetings or phone calls or both, depending on the complexity of your parents' circumstances.

Prepare for the meeting by asking your parents to think about these questions:

- **What will your retirement look like?** (Where will you live? How will you pay for it?)
- **How much do you expect retirement to cost?** (What are your estimated expenses? What are your sources of income? Do you have medical insurance, long-term care insurance and life insurance? When will you sign up for Social Security and Medicare benefits?)
- **What will happen if one of you becomes ill or disabled?** (Do you have caregiving options in mind? What will Medicare cover? What will private insurance provide? Who will have power of attorney? Is there a living will?)
- **Do you have an estate plan?** (Where are the documents kept? Who will be executor?)

One of the greatest challenges may be persuading your parents that their plans should be discussed with you. ■

¹ Fidelity.com. '2016 Fidelity® Investments Family & Finance Study Executive Summary.' April 2016.



Little Red Riding Hood's Grandmother Deserved More Attention



In the fairy tale, Little Red Riding Hood, the Big Bad Wolf abuses the Grandmother, but it's not the focus of the tale. Perhaps it should be. In fact, it may be time for a new set of fairy tales; stories that warn older adults about the dangers they may face as they age.

The unfortunate reality is that elder abuse has become far more common than many Americans realize. Elder abuse occurs whenever a caregiver (or swindler) causes physical, emotional or financial harm to a vulnerable person.² It occurs across all demographic groups.³

Estimates suggest that about five million older people are abused, exploited or neglected in the U.S. every year.³ The number may be higher since just one in five victims reports it. Overall, elder abuse costs older people about \$36.5 billion each year.⁴

Here are some ways to prevent it⁵:

- 1 Learn the signs of elder abuse and neglect
- 2 Call or visit elderly loved ones regularly
- 3 Ask your doctor to talk with older patients about possible violence in their lives
- 4 Ask your religious group's leader to talk about elder abuse during services
- 5 Volunteer at a nursing home
- 6 Email your local paper or television station and suggest covering World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, which is on June 15, 2017

Contact us for more tips and information that may help. Or call the FINRA Securities Helpline for Seniors® at 1-844-57-HELP or 1-844-574-3577. ■

² University of Southern California. 'How To Answer Those Tough Questions About Elder Abuse.' Cited March 27, 2017.

³ U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. 'World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, June 15th.' February 17, 2017.

⁴ Michael O. Schroeder, Nancy Pham and Nathan Hellman. 'Infographic: The High Cost of Elder Financial Abuse.' U.S. News & World Report. March 14, 2017.

⁵ National Center on Elder Abuse

