

# Financial Insight

*Security For Generations*



1st Quarter 2022

## GEN News and Reminders

### 2021 Charitable Giving Summary

Wow! 2021 was another great year of generosity. At GEN, we track the portion of your giving that we see. This includes your grants from Donor Advised Funds, gifts of appreciated investments and gifts directly from IRAs. We also track giving done by GEN which encompasses strategies like our Holiday gift match, employee giving match and our general giving fund. We are pleased to report giving in 2021 exceeded \$1.1 million! This is our second year of tracking gifts and we look forward to seeing what we can accomplish together in 2022 to impact our communities and the world. Thank you so much for letting us be a part of your generosity!

### 2021 Tax Document Schedule

All 1099 tax forms will be available from both Schwab and Fidelity by February 18. You may have already received these as they began the process in late January for some accounts. Form 5498 is also generated in May for clients who make “prior year” contributions to IRAs. While both custodians strive to limit reclassifications and corrections, these sometimes occur. The deadline for any revised tax forms is March 17. Tax forms are delivered by mail or electronically depending on how individual clients elect to receive them. You should also be able to export your tax information directly into tax preparation software (if you use it) by February 18. Please let us know if you or your CPA have questions on the forms you receive.

## Every Meal Volunteer Opportunity

A group of us at GEN had the opportunity to volunteer at Every Meal. Every Meal is an organization that works hard to ensure children and families experiencing food insecurity have access to food that is nutritious, delicious, and relevant. We

packaged non-perishable food items into bags that will be distributed at school to Minnesota students in need. Our group of volunteers packed 2,238 bags during our time! We highly recommend Every Meal as a volunteering opportunity.



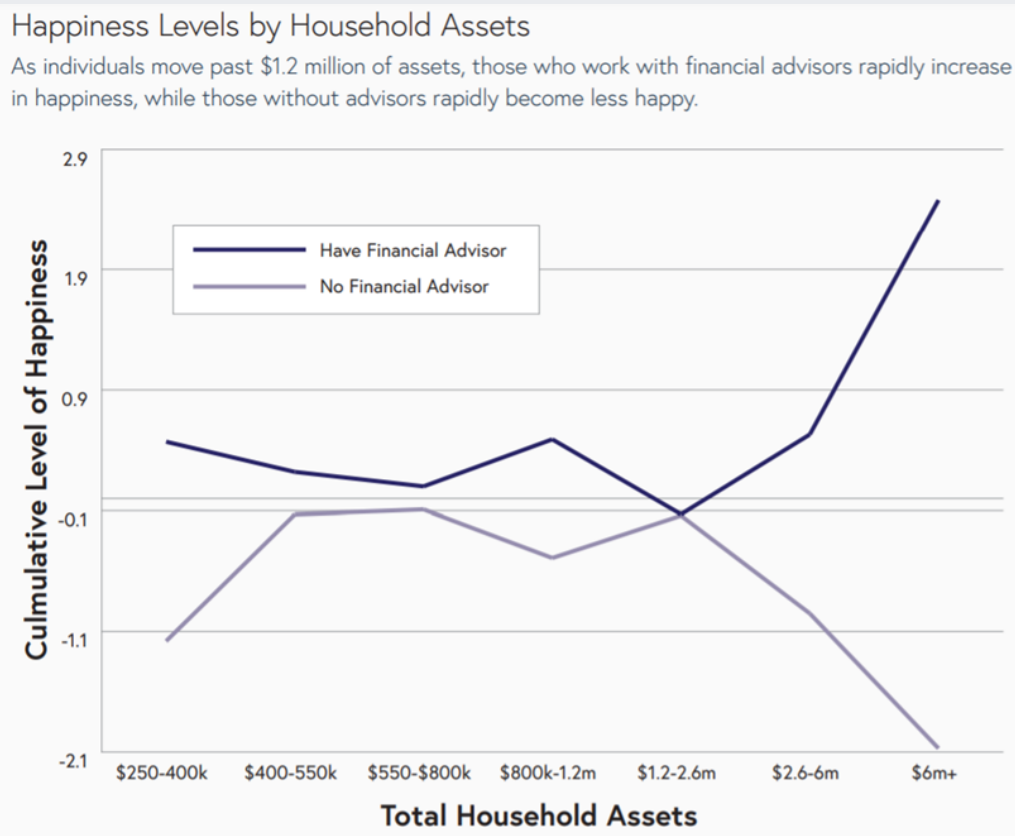
# Confidence, Happiness, and Retirement!

by Aaron Lindberg

I recently read two interesting studies discussing retirement expectations, confidence, and happiness.

The first study said that while 70% of workers report believing they'll have enough retirement income to pay for basic living expenses and some or extensive travel and leisure, 44% didn't think they would have enough money to last throughout retirement or be able to maintain their independence in retirement (source: Insured Retirement Institute). These cannot both be true. It seems like a strange misalignment in expectations that would certainly shake people's confidence.

The next is a 2021 study by Hebers & Company that found a fascinating relationship between working with a financial advisor versus managing your own finances. The graph charts happiness relative to household assets. One might think that happiness would steadily rise with assets.



Instead, the lines diverge greatly when household assets exceed \$1.2 million. Above this level of assets, those with a financial advisor gain more happiness as their assets increase, while those without a financial advisor get less and less happy!

I speculate that this is driven by confidence. As assets and lifestyle increase, anxiety can as well. We want to ensure this does not happen with you.

One of our key goals at GEN is to ensure we create and maintain accurate, achievable, and successful long-term plans. We also want to instill in you the necessary confidence in the plan that allows you to thrive and not fear either extreme of either running out or finishing with way more than you wish. We intentionally use conservative assumptions in building financial plans. As a team, we are very confident in your financial plan. It is validating and exciting for us to see the research that this generally increases happiness for our clients as well. If you have any questions about your plan, please reach out to your advisor. We are here for you.

*Materials discussed in this newsletter are meant for informational purposes only.  
Always seek professional advice before making any decisions.*

We welcome your thoughts, comments and suggestions regarding our newsletter.  
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