



1st Quarter 2026

Turning Wealth into Meaningful Impact

written by Eric Moleski

We often measure wealth by numbers—net worth, returns, number of toys that we own. However the most powerful measure of wealth is not accumulation, it's how we use our wealth to make a positive difference.

When used intentionally, wealth becomes more than a personal safety net or a symbol of success. It becomes a tool for expanding opportunity, restoring dignity, and solving problems that matter.

A mindset shift changes everything. Instead of seeing wealth as something we own outright, consider it something we steward. Stewardship asks better questions:

- Who could benefit if this resource were shared?
- What problems persist simply because they are under-funded?
- How can my capital work while I sleep—for people, not just profits?

You don't need a foundation or nine-figure portfolio to make a difference. In fact, focused generosity often outperforms scattered giving. Supporting a few causes deeply—rather than many causes lightly—creates energy and accountability.

It is helpful to think locally as well as globally. A scholarship in your community, seed-funding for a social enterprise, or backing a nonprofit with operational support can produce tangible, visible results. Impact compounds when it's consistent.

Traditional finance tracks return on investment (ROI) while impact-focused wealth tracks outcomes. How many lives improved? How much suffering was reduced—or opportunity created? Not everything meaningful fits neatly into a spreadsheet, and that's okay. Some of the most important returns are human: confidence restored, futures redirected, hope made practical.

Using wealth for good isn't about guilt or obligation. It's about alignment—between values and actions, success and significance. The truth is that money spent solely on ourselves eventually stops feeling rewarding, while money used to lift others tends to do the opposite.



Eric

The greatest legacy isn't how much we leave behind, but how much we set in motion. When wealth is used with intention, it doesn't just change lives, it changes the person using it.

In the end, the most meaningful impact of wealth is not what it gives you, but what it enables you to give others.

2025 Tax Documents

Around this time of year, we get questions surrounding the expected timing of receiving tax forms. Please see a brief description and delivery expectation of generated tax forms below.

1099-R forms will be sent or posted by January 31. These show distributions from retirement accounts.

1099s for everything else are initially sent around February 15, with exceptions. These are the forms for non-retirement accounts and include dividends, interest, and capital gains. As we commonly see corrections made to these, we recommend waiting to transmit your tax return until mid-March or later. You can have it prepared and ready to go but waiting would prevent the need to file an amended return if there ends up being a revised 1099.

1098-T for tuition payments must be sent to taxpayers by January 31.

5498 forms show contributions to retirement accounts and Health Savings Accounts (HSAs). Since these contributions can be made up to your tax filing deadline of April 15, these forms do not show up until May. CPAs are all aware of this and you do not need the forms to file. The CPA simply needs to include the amount of these contributions on your return. Please let us know if you have any questions regarding your contribution amounts.

Tax forms are sent according to your delivery preferences at your custodian (Schwab and/or Fidelity). They can be sent either hard copy or electronically. Please tell us if you want to update these preferences, and we would be happy to walk you through the process.

Charitable Giving & 2026 GENCC Golf Tournament

In the first quarter of the new year, we love to update you on charitable giving for the prior year. The primary types of giving we track are distributions from Donor Advised Funds (DAFs) to the end charities, gifts by GEN clients of appreciated investments, Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) from IRAs, GEN corporate giving, and funds raised by GEN Children's Charity. We understand that GEN clients are generous beyond these methods, but these are trackable metrics for us. 2025 proved to be another fantastic year with giving distributed to charities in excess of \$760,000! This brings total tracked giving for the past four years to nearly \$4.7 million. Thank you again for allowing us to take part in your substantial and joyous generosity.

GEN Children's Charity is sponsoring our biennial golf tournament on July 15, 2026. We are excited to be raising funds for the Freddie Solum Fund at the Minneapolis Foundation this year. Freddie is the beloved grandson of our GEN team member, Tracy Westhoff, who courageously battled Lymphoma throughout late 2023 and much of 2024. His battle, forever inspiring, was fought with toughness and resolve well beyond his years until the time of his passing in July 2024. Freddie was five years old. It's focus is granting funds to three unique and very deserving areas which support progress in living with, and ultimately ending, childhood cancer – providing necessary funding to hospital systems, critical funding to research organizations, and supporting programs, like Make-a-Wish, that endeavor to bring enjoyment to the children as they struggle with childhood cancer.

