Ensuring a financial future for generations.

Trusts and well-planned estates play an integral role in ensuring your family's financial future. Estate planning gives you the peace of mind that comes from knowing you have provided for those close to you.

The Fiduciary Services Group at Investment Management & Trust is your long-term partner, ready to build a strategy from the ground up, provide guidance or administer a plan that is already in place. When assets are entrusted to us, we honor such confidence with professionalism and personal care.

Philosophy

At Investment Management & Trust, we conceive of life planning as the focus of estate planning. Investment Management & Trust offers a complete range of trust and estate services to help you build, preserve and transfer your wealth. We understand that you are concerned not only with how your assets will be transferred at death, but also with ensuring that they are carefully managed today to improve your life and meet your unique short and long-term goals.

Estate planning gives you the peace of mind knowing you have provided for those close to you.

With your life planning goals as our focus, we will help you structure, administer and execute a trust or estate plan that will:

- Keep assets within your family, even if they require management that lies outside your family's current area of expertise
- Coordinate all assets as part of your plan, including non-probate assets such as retirement accounts and insurance benefits
- Provide access to specialized money managers through an open investment architecture
- Manage taxes and take advantage of the protection from creditors that trusts can provide in appropriate circumstances
- Achieve philanthropic goals that will sustain your legacy

Who needs a trust?

Few family trusts are established solely for tax purposes or by people with great wealth. A well-crafted, trust-based estate plan can document your financial vision and establish a structure for the management and transfer of your assets.

A trust may help you:

- Protect your family's wealth
- Simplify the handling of assets in more than one state
- Dictate how your assets will serve you and your beneficiaries
- Address money management concerns
- Manage assets for beneficiaries with special needs
- Plan for incapacity or disability during your lifetime
- Protect against creditors
- Secure your privacy

Solutions

Investment Management & Trust includes a team of trust officers and estate advisors, along with a local team of portfolio managers, with the talent and experience to help you derive the highest possible benefit from your financial resources. We can help you determine if a trust is the right tool for you. We offer specialized trust services that include charitable trusts to fulfill your philanthropic goals, special needs trusts to provide for family members with disabilities, insurance trusts and legacy trusts.

Who should be my trustee?

A trustee has legal and fiduciary obligations to administer a trust according to its terms, invest the assets prudently under the applicable circumstances, and be loyal to the beneficiaries. The duties of a trustee are ongoing and complex, and require a thorough understanding of applicable laws and fiduciary standards. As you consider candidates for the role of trustee to carry out the instructions of your trust, consider the key characteristics of an effective trustee.

Trustee Duties:

- Administer the trust with care and prudence
- Treat the beneficiaries impartially
- Act with undivided loyalty and refrain from self-dealing
- Keep accurate accounts and records
- Invest trust assets according to the Prudent Investor Rule or other applicable laws
- Evaluate discretionary distribution requests in light of the trust's terms and applicable laws
- Strictly adhere to the terms of the trust
- Report to the beneficiaries
- File required annual tax returns
- Register the trust

Solutions

When you name Investment Management & Trust as your trustee, the Fiduciary Services Group will assume the legal and fiduciary responsibilities to administer your trust, minimizing the burden that would otherwise fall to loved ones. We offer decades of combined experience working with a wide range of investment alternatives and tax and legal situations, as well as a professional approach to balancing grantor objectives with beneficiary needs. While an individual trustee may become ill or distracted from his or her trust duties by other business or personal responsibilities, the full-time business of Investment Management & Trust is trust administration, so our focus is always on fulfilling our fiduciary obligations. A bank trustee can use his or her experience and knowledge to guide the beneficiaries and provide for them. What's more, when a family member serves as trustee, the interpersonal relationships between loved ones can often suffer. As an independent third party, Investment Management & Trust is well positioned to make decisions impartially, thereby preserving the closeness of your family.

Nominating a Personal Representative

A vital aspect of your estate plan is choosing your personal representative, the individual or entity responsible for making sure the directions in your will are carried out, settling your estate and hiring the necessary professionals. These duties can require significant time and energy, and may even cause discord between family members.

Personal Representative Duties:

- Perform administrative tasks, such as locating legal documents and beneficiaries
- Initiate probate proceedings
- Safeguard, assemble and inventory assets
- Describe assets in accordance with the law
- Raise necessary cash
- Pay debts and taxes
- Treat the beneficiaries impartially

Solutions

Naming Investment Management & Trust as personal representative or co-personal representative for a new or existing will can help ensure that your estate will be settled smoothly, objectively, and properly. If you like, we will store your estate planning documents in our permanent files at no charge. With appropriate identification, you may review or retrieve the stored documents at any time.

We can help you achieve your philanthropic goals to sustain your legacy

Charitable Gifts

Once you have provided for the current and future needs of family members, you may want to leave a legacy in the form of charitable gifts to the communities and organizations that are important to you.

Planned charitable giving can carry your philanthropic values into the future. Depending upon the type of gift, it may also be able to generate other benefits, such as providing current income or reducing capital gains or transfer taxes.

Solutions

The Fiduciary Services Group at Investment Management & Trust will work with you to determine which approach or combination of services best fits your needs. We can help design and implement many kinds of charitable vehicles, including outright gifts, testamentary gifts, structured lifetime giving, charitable remainder trusts, charitable lead trusts and private foundations. We can help you achieve your financial legacy.

Investment Management & Trust

Over the decades, Investment Management & Trust has earned the trust of generations of families in northern Colorado, helping them build, preserve, and transfer their wealth with personalized advice, solutions and services. We are the partner of choice for individuals, families, corporations, public entities and foundations with complex wealth management needs. Whether you are looking for trust and estate services, financial planning, investment management, retirement plans, private banking services, or mortgage services, our local team of professionals can provide customized financial solutions.

Solutions

Financial Planning

Financial Planning is the process of meeting your life goals through proper management of your finances. To create your personal Financial Plan, you will begin by meeting with an Investment Management & Trust professional to discuss budgeting and savings, investments, education, insurance, retirement services, and estate services.

Investment Management

Based upon the information gathered during your meeting with an Investment Management & Trust professional, we will prepare a written investment plan that accounts for your current needs and goals. Then we work with you to execute the plan using the appropriate investments and strategies. We believe that our local asset management based on fundamental research and proven theories will add value to your portfolio by increasing investment returns while limiting risk.

Retirement Planning

In today's highly competitive business marketplace, your employees are a critical component of your success. Help to retain your key employees by building loyalty with competitive retirement benefits. Using a flexible mix of retirement planning products and services, your retirement plan specialist will develop a plan that meets your needs while also satisfying your employees.

First National Bank
Investment Management & Trust

Trust and Estate Consultations

The Fiduciary Services Group at Investment Management & Trust invites you to discuss your estate planning needs. Meet one-on-one with a local expert who understands the language, complexity and responsibility surrounding trusts and estates. While the Fiduciary Services Group does not draft legal documents, we will work with your attorney and other advisors to create an estate plan that is specifically tailored to your unique needs. If you already have drafted documents, we would be glad to help explain how they function. Because we do not charge by the hour, this consultation is at no cost.

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Understanding Trusts and Estates

The language and terms surrounding trusts and estates can often be complex. At Investment Management & Trust, we believe that as our clients grow to understand the process, they gain confidence in knowing that their plans are meeting their individual needs. Here are some basic terms to help you understand the planning process.

Beneficiary
A beneficiary has equitable title to property held in a trust, meaning the right to benefit from the property as specified in the trust document.

Estate
An estate is the total of one's assets, including personal property, real estate, retirement assets, insurance proceeds, and bank and investment accounts.

Estate Plan
An estate plan should protect your estate, your heirs and your own financial vision. In addition to a will and/or trust documents, you may want to discuss the following documents with your legal advisor: Durable Power of Attorney, Medical Power of Attorney, Authorization to Release Medical Information and Living Will. It is important to review your estate plan every three to five years and adapt it to your changing needs. Significant events – marriage, divorce, birth of children or grandchildren, retirement, moving to a new state, ownership of real estate outside your state of residence, the sale of a business or major changes in law – should prompt a review before the standard timeframe.

Fiduciary
A fiduciary is one who is vested with the rights and powers to be exercised for the benefit of another. Trustees and personal representatives are fiduciaries.

Grantor
In the trust context, a grantor is the owner of the property who creates the trust and transfers property to a trustee for the benefit of himself, herself or others.

Intestate
A person who dies without having made a will is said to have died intestate. The distribution of that person's property will be governed by state intestacy laws. These are default rules assigning predetermined amounts and shares of one's estate to specific persons, depending on whether the deceased is survived by a spouse, children, parents, brothers and sisters, or even grandparents. A will is your opportunity to change these default rules and give your assets to whomever you choose.

Personal Representative

"Personal Representative" is the title of the person or entity appointed by a court to administer an estate. An individual's will usually *nominates* the desired personal representative, but only the court can make the actual appointment and vest the personal representative with the authority to act. In some states, the name for a personal representative is "executor."

Trust

A trust is a legal relationship in which one person or trust company, the trustee, agrees to hold and manage property for the benefit of another person, the beneficiary. The person who establishes a trust, called the grantor, will often do so for his or her own benefit during life, and then for other beneficiaries after he or she dies. Trusts are useful tools for providing professional asset management for a grantor or beneficiary who is incapacitated, and for asset protection and money management for family members. Unlike wills, trusts protect your privacy, as they do not become public records. With proper planning, trusts can also provide tax savings.

Trustee

A trustee is given the legal authority to manage money or property for the benefit of someone else under a trust agreement. A trustee may be an individual or a corporation. Unlike the authority of an agent under a power of attorney, the authority of a trustee continues after the death of the grantor. A trustee has a legal duty, called a fiduciary duty, to use the trust property for the beneficiaries as set forth in the trust agreement and permitted by law.

Will

A will is a document executed with the formalities of law in which a person makes a plan to dispose of his or her property to take effect at death. Parents may also nominate a guardian for their minor children in a will. A will does not in most circumstances govern the disposition of non-probate assets, such as retirement benefits and life insurance proceeds. Every person eighteen or older should have a will.