Financial Planning Process

Financial planning is a process on what each person considers most important based on their values and goals.

A financial plan is really a coordinated series of plans that begins with goals and objectives reflecting values, attitudes, lifestyle circumstances, needs, and wants. The process helps individuals develop and implement financial moves to reach financial objectives.

Articles online:
- Action Steps Financial Goals
- Household Filing System
- Household Inventory From
- Household Recordkeeping
- Income Taxes
- Organize Your Important Papers
- SMART Financial Goal Setting
- Smart Uses for Your Tax Refund
- Working with Financial Professionals

Consumer Education

In the world of shopping both on the web and in the stores, it pays to be a knowledgeable consumer. By making wise decisions using your resources in exchange for goods and services, you can extend these resources. Being a smart shopper involves being informed when buying a car or home, preventing identity theft, understanding credit, resolving problems after a purchase, and much more.

Articles online:
- Debt
- Financial Institutions
- Identity Theft

Lifestyle Transitions

Lifestyle transitions requiring financial decisionmaking range from job loss, changes in work status, caregiving responsibilities, divorce, retirement, chronic or acute illness, disability, death, long term care, to estate planning. Making sound financial decisions during these times can impact financial security in the future as well as the present.

Talking About Money

Why should we talk about money? We learned as children how impolite it was to ask how much someone paid for something, didn’t we? Unfortunately, there can be severe consequences when money is not talked about. Many couples cite money problems as a factor in divorce. Consumers find they have been taken advantage of when they do not ask for estimates before buying goods and services. And many families are forced to deal with additional stress after the death of a loved one when financial matters were not communicated beforehand.

Articles online:
- Talking with Aging Parents About Finances

More information and Topics can be found at eXtension Personal Finance Site
http://www.extension.org/personal+finance