

## **The Journey Starts Here**

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#### ATTAINING FINANCIAL FREEDOM IS A JOURNEY.

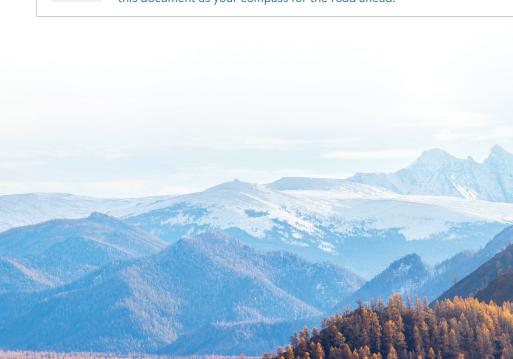
To get where you want to be, it takes patience, confidence, steadiness and trust. It takes a practiced partner too.

At Donaldson, we act as your guide through this journey. There for the milestones and the day to day, we work so you can live distinctly at every stage along the way.

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## Waypoints

AS WE GET STARTED, we want to give you a look forward into where we're going together. Think of this document as your compass for the road ahead.



### **L**DCM Overview

AFTER YEARS OF PLANNING AND PREPARING, you need a partner with a complementary, long-term focus. Because it's not just where you're going, it's how we help you get there. And we take the practiced route that seeks to bring peace of mind at every stage, no matter the financial climate.

# Playing It Safe Pays Off

#### BY FOCUSING ON SECURITY, INCOME

AND GROWTH - in that order - we seek to produce generous and dependable income while keeping your principal intact. And every year since we were founded, our Endowment Cornerstone strategy has consistently outperformed its benchmark with less risk.\*

### ■ THE NOT-SO-HUMBLE DIVIDEND

#### RATHER THAN CHASING THE NEXT BIG THING,

we prefer reliable returns through steadily rising dividends. Historically growing dividends lead to growing prices; that's why we invest in companies which routinely increase their dividends.

# Your Distinctly Qualified Team

OUR STAFF DOESN'T WORK IN ISOLATION. And when you work with us, the entire firm becomes your resource. From our Investment Policy Committee continuously monitoring the markets to your Advisor team dedicated to your day to day, we're always focused on your goals. Plus, we have staff with eight different designations such as Certified Financial Planner<sup>™</sup>, Chartered Financial Analyst<sup>®</sup> (CFA) and Certified Public Accountant (CPA), all working together to help guide you to where you want to be.



Top 300 Financial Advisers 2014-16/2018-20

See disclosure inside back cover for details on Financial Times Top 300 Award



# Charting Our Own Course

SINCE 1995, WE'VE MADE OUR OWN WAY. Our founder, Greg Donaldson, started out guiding charitable organizations and individuals through tough financial climates and from there shaped our core investment philosophy. It's the reason why we focus on security, income and growth – in that order. And why we take the long-term approach for every client.

With our values firmly in place, we grew from our headquarters in Evansville, Indiana, to additional offices in Columbus, Chicago and Atlanta. Today, we serve clients across the nation in different stages of life and finances, each treated as collaborative, trusting financial partnerships.





## Who We Help Get There

WHEN WORKING WITH DONALDSON, there's no one set path. Whether you are approaching your next financial stage or responsible for your employees' plans, we work as your partner to get you where you want to be.

#### LEDCM WEALTH MANAGEMENT

Retirement means different things to different people. It's our job to make sure the road you choose is clear so you can find peace of mind and enjoy what comes next.

ETIREMENT PLAN Services

Managing a retirement plan with multiple stakeholders is a lot for one person to navigate. We help lift that burden by guiding your plan towards greater returns and lower risk.

#### **LEDCM** FOUNDATIONS & ENDOWMENTS

We know what it means to shepherd investments for the long term; it's how we got our start. And it's why we prioritize security first - so you can meet your goals, no matter how far down the road they may be.

# Start With The End In Mind

### TO GET FROM WHERE YOU ARE TO WHERE YOU WANT TO BE, it helps to take the long view. By focusing on security, income and growth – in that order – we seek to generate steady returns with reduced risk, so you can reach your goals no matter what comes next.



### SECURITY

We seek to reduce risk and volatility in hopes of never touching your principal - safeguarding your assets.

### INCOME

The power of the rising dividend allows us to seek sources of generous and dependable income, for the long term.

### GROWTH

We believe in investments that increase in value each year and hand-pick each to fit your needs and goals.

## **Shaping A Sturdy Foundation**

**BEFORE SETTING OUT**, it's important to map where you're headed. Together, we will plot your objectives and aspirations, in both the near and far term, to begin crafting a personal investment strategy that meets your needs along the way. Our primary investment strategies are customizable based on the unique income needs and risk tolerance of each client.

### CAPITAL BUILDER

GROWTH

Our most growth-focused equity strategy is designed to seek capital appreciation over yield, while not sacrificing security.

INCOME BUILDER

### CORNERSTONE

Prioritizing growth of both income and capital, this equity strategy seeks to limit risk and volatility to less than that of the stock market.

#### **ENDOWMENT CORNERSTONE**

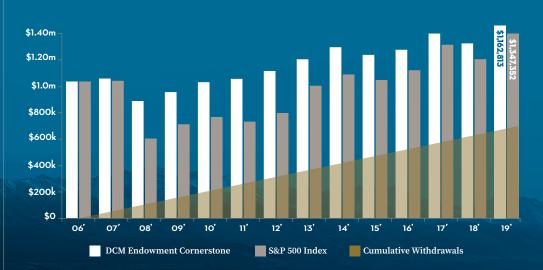
Designed to produce a steady stream of income, one that increases every year, this strategy is a balanced blend of our equity and fixed income strategies.

Made up of a mix of dividend-paying stocks and bonds

With a strong emphasis on income, this strategy is designed to be our highest yielding strategy focused on generating a reliable and increasing stream of income. Made up of 100% dividend-paying stocks

# Take Your Investments Further

IF YOU HAD INVESTED \$1,000,000 in both our Endowment Cornerstone and the S&P 500 Index (SPY) before the 2008 financial crisis and withdrawn \$50,000 a year through 2018, your portfolio with us would have earned you \$115,439 more than the S&P.



The Endowment Cornerstone strategy seeks return through investing in dividend- paying stocks while the S&P 500 index tracks stock of large companies regardless of whether these companies pay dividends. All performance shown is net of fees and reflects the reinvestment of dividends and other account earnings which may have a material impact on overall returns. These returns are NOT verified or GIPS compliant. All supporting performance data available upon request.

Past performance is not indicative of future results.

## Fortune Favors A New Kind Of Bold

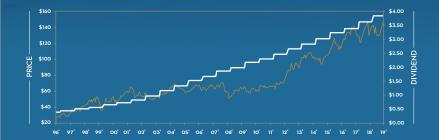
AT FIRST GLANCE, dividends may not seem like a bold foundation for an equity investment strategy. But to us, what you do with your earnings should be the adventure, not the investment itself.

#### HERE'S WHY DIVIDENDS HAVE BEEN OUR BEDROCK SINCE WE OPENED OUR DOORS:

- They help us determine a company's financial health and true value.
- Dividends let us share in a company's prosperity by paying us a portion of today's earnings.
- They represent over 41%\* of the market's total return.

\* Source: Data Source: Standard & Poor's, Robert Shiller

WE ONLY INVEST IN COMPANIES that pay generous dividends which have consistently increased and are likely to continue to increase their dividends. With this approach, we project you can attain a reliable income with less worry about the current market conditions.

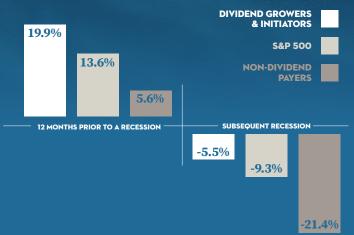


Actual Company Example, Data Source: Yahoo! Finance, 12/31/1996 - 12/31/2019. Actual performance will vary; past performance may not be indicative of future results.

# Consistent When It Counts Most

WHILE THERE'S NO WAY TO FULLY SAFEGUARD AGAINST RECESSIONS, dividends have historically helped to reduce volatility in times of uncertainty while offering steady returns. In fact, dividend-paying companies have outperformed non-dividend payers and the S&P 500 during the last 5 recessions, not only during the 12 months before the recession but also throughout the subsequent recession.

#### AVERAGE CUMULATIVE RETURN over the last 5 recessions



Data sources: National Bureau of Economic Research and Ned David Research, Inc.,

1/1/79 - 12/31/18, based on the five most recent recessions. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

## **Uncovering The Real Value**

#### INVESTING YOUR SAVINGS WITHOUT KNOWING A COMPANY'S TRUE VALUE IS A RISK.

Most investors gamble on their ability to eventually sell stock at a higher price and never learn its intrinsic value. For our clients, who count on dependable results, we found another way.



## **L**DCM Proprietary Model

WITH PROPRIETARY MODELS USED FOR STOCK SCREENING,

we seek to evaluate whether companies are priced higher or lower than their intrinsic value.



Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Investing involves risk of loss of principal and no model can guarantee results Data Source: Bloomberg, 2000-2019 \*See page back cover for details on Standard Deviation and Intrinsic Value

## **Our Process**

MOST FIRMS RELY HEAVILY ON MUTUAL FUNDS, MANAGED SEPARATELY ON WALL STREET. AT DCM, WE PREFER TO KEEP IT ALL IN-HOUSE.

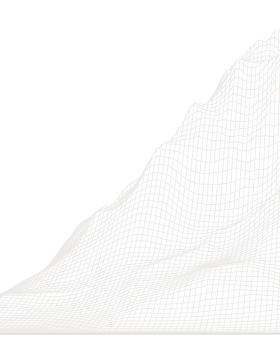
**OUR INVESTMENT POLICY COMMITTEE (IPC)** works around the clock, analyzing current market and economic conditions, and making changes in real time to the stocks and bonds in our investment strategies. This agility lets us test and course correct and allows our team to always seek out the best path forward for your portfolio.



Kyle Markle Chief Investment Officer Equities



Joe Zabratanski Chief Investment Officer *Fixed Income* 



## The Way We See It

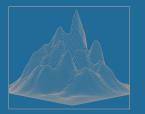
#### RUN BY MEMBERS WITH A VARIETY OF EXPERIENCES AND VIEWPOINTS,

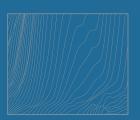
our Investment Policy Committee brings a real-world perspective to the decisionmaking process. Each member applies what they've learned throughout their careers, whether that's managing diverse businesses, matriculating at some of the country's best business schools or becoming certified in key areas of our industry.

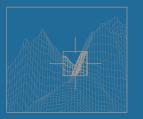
Most spent years working alongside our founder, Greg Donaldson, and learned how to look at the markets and individual securities the Donaldson way. Plus, all but one member of the IPC act as Investment Advisors, maintaining one-on-one relationships with clients. This way, the decisions of the IPC always remain anchored to the needs and goals of those we serve.



## It Takes A Diligent Practice







#### TAKE THE MACRO VIEW

From major events to worldwide shifts, we determine, as best we can, how those dynamics will affect the stock and bond markets. By answering how larger economies can be moved and how different industries will be influenced, we create our macro view.

#### PATTERN PLAY

Next, we merge our bigger picture with the trends we see in the markets. Then we dig a level deeper, scouring data to find where these movements are confirmed or refuted, bringing forward both opportunities and risks. From here, we know to which parts of our portfolios to reduce exposure and to which parts we need to add positions.

#### FIELD DUTY

Once we know the landscape, the IPC asks our research analysts to dive into specific industries. Using our proprietary models, they screen for undervalued companies in those fields. Within days, our analysts bring specific recommendations to the IPC for debate.

# **Bringing It Home**

LASTLY AND MOST CRITICALLY, every Investment Advisor takes the Investment Policy Committee recommendations to the portfolios they manage and decides whether the move is appropriate for each client.

> "By thinking globally and acting locally, we deliver distinct strategies made for the conditions and needs of each journey we serve."

Kyle Markle, CFP®

Chief Investment Officer & Investment Advisor Investment Policy Committee Member



# A Financial Plan That Changes With You

#### THE PATH TO FINANCIAL FREEDOM ISN'T STATIC.

Keeping up with the ever-changing financial landscape and your needs within it takes a plan molded around how you actually live your life.

#### — TOGETHER, WE START OUT MAPPING

how to get you from where you are to where you want to be. Our team of CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ professionals and Certified Public Accountants will take a look at factors like:

AGE & HEALTH RISK TOLERANCE OUTSTANDING DEBT OBLIGATIONS INSURANCE NEEDS TAX SITUATIONS SOCIAL SECURITY STRATEGIES ESTATE PLANS RETIREMENT EXPECTATIONS ASPIRATIONAL GOALS 2

FROM THERE, we analyze which strategies best fit your road ahead. We make sure you're covered for what comes next with personalized recommendations in areas like:

ASSET ALLOCATION SAVINGS PLANS TAX STRATEGIES CHARITABLE GIVING STRATEGIES INSURANCE CASH FLOW MANAGEMENT AGREEING ON THE BEST PATH FORWARD

3

and setting it in motion is not the end of the line. We'll monitor each facet's progress and how it compares to your current needs and goals, adjusting and realigning along the way.

#### LIFETIME PORTFOLIO VALUE

After ensuring your quality of life is maintained for the long term, we implement strategies designed to maximize your assets, so you can start crafting your legacy.



Chart is for illustrative purposes only. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Investing involves risk of loss of principal and no model can guarantee results.

# What It's Like Working With Us

AS YOUR PARTNER, WE ARE WITH YOU through every step of your next stage, from the milestones to the day-to-day. We want to know where you've been, where you'd like to be and everything in between so we can draft a plan that fits how you live your life.

Once we agree on the right plan, it's by no means the end of the road. We are on hand for feedback, adjustments, evaluations and anything you may need all along the way.





### **Roadmap To Your Journey**

#### HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AS YOU START YOUR JOURNEY WITH US:

### **Beginning of Year**

As the year kicks off, we look ahead. Together, we go through our checklist of deadlines, reminders and tax reviews.

### Mid-Year

Once we've gotten started, we'll go over what's worked and what hasn't, both financially and personally, so we can make adjustments accordingly.

### **End of Year**

At the close of the year, we go over any upcoming deadlines and reminders, made sweeter by our famous DCM Holiday Chocolates.

#### **ONGOING SERVICES**

### CLIENT MEETINGS



QUARTERLY REPORT

MARKET & NEWS UPDATES

Based on your needs and expectations, we get together at least once a year, but sometimes as often as four times a year. This includes both Portfolio & Investment Reviews and Financial Plan Reviews.

Once a week, we publish The Outlook, a write-up of the latest happenings in the market, to our site and to our subscribers.

Recapping the prior quarter and the plan moving forward, our Rising Dividend Report covers financial planning, current events and DCM news.

If something significant happens in the markets or the financial planning world, expect an update from us.

# Our Firm, Centered Around You

YOU ARE THE FOCUS OF OUR FIRM. While your Investment Advisor and Client Services Manager serve as your main points of contact, every team member is working for you behind the scenes to help ensure your investments and financial plan are on course for your journey.

#### INVESTMENT ADVISOR

Your personal guide for the road ahead. They not only manage your investments but are on hand for each financial milestone.

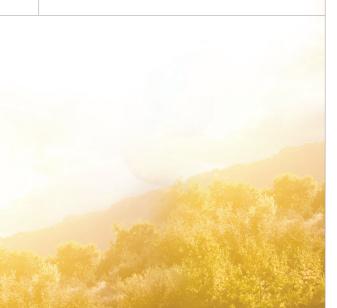
#### CLIENT SERVICES MANAGER

Your personal concierge for day-to-day questions and requests. They're here to help you manage your financial journey - and are always just a call or email away.

# Working In Tandem

#### WITH OVER 100 YEARS of combined

retirement advisory experience, our dynamic team takes the practiced path to get you where you want to be.



#### VICE PRESIDENT OF CLIENT EXPERIENCE

Acting as your advocate within the firm, they work to ensure quality and consistency and are always an open ear for feedback, both good and bad.

#### INVESTMENT POLICY COMMITTEE

This in-house team handpicks the individual stocks and bonds that make up our investment strategies - something many other firms outsource.

#### PORTFOLIO ANALYST

To meet the goals set by you and your advisor, they maintain your portfolio, ensuring you own the right balance of stocks and bonds.

#### DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL PLANNING

By ensuring our Advisory Teams are equipped to deliver superior planning guidance, they make sure you are provided with the latest news and advice.

#### RETIREMENT PLAN ADVISOR

Our go-to resource for Retirement Plan Services clients. They help Plan Sponsors navigate fiduciary responsibility, while also serving participants as a financial wellness resource.

#### **RESEARCH ANALYST**

With designations such as Chartered Financial Analyst® (CFA) and Certified Business Economist® (CBE), they're dedicated to analyzing market and economic conditions from a micro and macro perspective. And they provide the fuel for our Investment Policy Committee.

# Get To Know A Little More About Us

FAMILY IS ONE OF OUR CORE VALUES. When you become a client, you become a part of our family. It takes real trust to find the right partner for your journey and it's a responsibility we don't take lightly.

That's why we place such high value on integrity, passion, excellence and service in our employees. Every day we dedicate ourselves to serving our clients, to be deserving of their trust and to help them begin their next journey, at ease with their financial decisions.



# We're Ready To Get Started. And We Hope You Are Too.

IT'S NOT ALWAYS EASY TAKING A SIGNIFICANT STEP toward where you want to be, but we are here as your guide and partner for every point along the way. Give us a call or email to start your journey. We'd love to get to know you and where you're headed.

1.800.321.7442

- @ info@dcmol.com
- dcmol.com

### **Fee Structure**

#### YOU'LL ALWAYS KNOW WHERE YOUR MONEY GOES

With us, there are no hidden fees. Our compensation is based on the market value of each client's assets, calculated and billed quarterly in advance.

Ask your advisor for a transparent look into exactly what our services will cost compared to how other advisors typically structure costs.

DCM compensates TD Ameritrade each time it buys or sells shares of stock for one of our clients. Clients may in certain circumstances also be charged transfer taxes or exchange fees mandated by the Securities Exchange Act of 1954, or any other charges imposed by law on transactions in the account. In addition, this agreement does not include postage, IRA custodial and/or maintenance fees that may be charged by the custodian.

All accounts held by immediate family members will be aggregated to calculate fees. Fees are calculated based on the closing price of the portfolio assets on the last day of the previous calendar quarter. To the fullest extent possible, recognized and independent pricing services will be used to value portfolio assets.



dcmol.com

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The performance shown in the Endowment-Cornerstone Strategy are subject to a number of limitations, and do not reflect the results of any actual DCM client accounts, which may have been materially different to a number of limitations, and do not reflect the results of any actual DCM client account, which may have been materially different to a number of limitations, and do not reflect the results of any actual DCM client account, which may have been materially different to the model. The performance of an actual client account will likely vary from the Endowment Cornerstone model, including custodial costs and other fees, actual transaction costs in a client account being higher or lower than the model transaction costs, market conditions during trading, investment selection availability, and/or other factors. The performance shown in the graph is backtested ('pro-forma') performance, derived from the retracative application of a model developed with the benefit of hindight. There are inherent limitations of showing portfolio performance based on hypothetical results. Unlike actual performance records, hypothetical results cannot accurately reflect the effect of material economic or market factors on the price of the securities, and therefore, results may be over or under-stated due to the impact of these factors. Since hypothetical results do not reflece the securities and therefore, results may be over or under-stated due to the impact of these factors. Since hypothetical results do not reflece the securities of mADV Part2A. To Illustrate the possible effect of market factors is to unknown what effect these factors might have had on DCM's decision-making if we were actually managing clients' more, linvestment advisory fees are described in DCM's form ADV Part2A. To Illustrate the possible effect of facangement fees on total return of an account, what follows is an illustration: an account that earned 5.00% "gross" each calendar year for ten years would have earned an annualized "gross" return of 5.00%, with a

Standard deviation is a number used to tell how measurements for a group are spread out from the average (mean), or expected value. A low standard deviation means that most of the numbers are very close to the average. A high standard deviation means that the numbers are spread out. The intrinsic value described on page 13 is calculated using regression analysis measuring the relationship between price and fundamental variables.

The Financial Times 300 Top Registered Investment Advisers is an independent listing produced annually by the Financial Times (June, 2018). The FT 300 is based on data gathered from RIA firms, regulatory disclosures, and the FT's research. The listing reflected each practice's performance in six primary areas: assets under management, asset growth, compliance record, years in existence, credentials and online accessibility. This award does not evaluate the quality of services provided to clients and is not indicative of the practice's future performance. Neither the RIA firms nor their employees pay a fee to The Financial Times in exchange for inclusion in the FT 300.



