

Talk

Discuss your goals with a trusted and certified financial planner. Talking can help families – particularly an older adult – feel more in control, like a weight has been lifted from their shoulders. Discussions can make these issues tangible and bring them out into the open.

After assessing and considering, write down your financial choices. And consider how you would discuss with a family member your financial expectations and needs. Discuss the importance of a will and any next steps needed.

Refer to the following conversation tips and suggestions for help communicating your wishes.

Conversation Tips

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“The recession has hit us all hard, Dad. Should you consider downsizing?”

“I’m looking forward to the years ahead. To help ensure I won’t be a burden on anyone, I’d like to share my plans with you and how I hope to finance those plans.”

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“With your problems, Mom, should we go see a financial planner to find out what sort of care we can afford?”

If you anticipate money will be a problem: “I may have to scale back my plans for retirement. Here’s why and the amount of money I anticipate needing in my later years. I think I’d feel better with a plan. Can you help?”

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