Volunteering is something many plan to do once they retire. It is rewarding and makes you feel like you are accomplishing something by giving back and helping people. Volunteering also gives the opportunity to meet people, make new friends and get out of the house. Besides having the time to volunteer, retirees can also have the experience and skills that are of great value.

As Executive Director of Independence Hill Retirement Community and Independence Village, I often meet seniors who share their personal experiences with regard to volunteering. They share now it keeps them engaged, active, and focused on the things that really matter, and in most cases, is something very passionate about.

One of our Independence Hill residents has volunteered since her high school days. She currently finds great joy sharing her time at our Assisted Living and also visits residents who have gone to the hospital or rehabs to give them encouragement. It is usually something very simple. If it is a baked good, she whips it up and delivers it the next day. “Volunteering fills my heart and soul. It makes me feel so good, it almost feels selfish,” she remarks.

Whether you have a few hours a week or are available for a larger commitment of time, consider volunteering in an area you will find both interesting and rewarding. There are several active resident volunteers throughout our communities. Mr. Workman, sums up his thoughts about his volunteer work as an Airport Greeter, saying, “I am exposed to the complete spectrum of humanity; happy, grumpy, young, old, first time flyers, etc. It is fascinating!”

One group who started volunteering together on Saturdays turned their talents to support “Threads of Love,” making blankets and caps for premature babies. Once the embroidery is complete, Pat will put the boxes of embroidered material on the porches of her three neighbors who will stitch the animals together. Finally the boxes are taken to two residents who stuff them, and get them ready for the children. They make approximately 1000 stuffed animals per year, which they enjoy doing and feel great about. They love the fact that they can volunteer their time at their leisure… even while watching TV and experience the true joy in the gift of giving.

Are you in being part of our neighborhood community of volunteers who find true fulfillment? Contact us at (210) 209-8956 to schedule your personal lunch and tour.

Investing In Agreement With Your Beliefs

By Eric Zeitler
Client Centric Wealth Management
(210) 807-7599

Do your investment choices reflect your outlook? Are they in agreement with your values? These questions may seem rather deep when it comes to deciding what to buy or sell, but some great investors have built fortunes by investing according to the ethical, moral and spiritual tenets that guide their lives.

Sir John Templeton stands out as an example. Born and raised in a small Tennessee town, he became one of the world’s richest men and most respected philanthropists. Believing that “every successful entrepreneur is a servant,” he invested in companies that did no harm and which reflected his conviction that “success is a process of continually seeking answers to new questions.”

Warren Buffett leaps to mind as another example. The “Oracle of Omaha” is worth $70 billion, and Berkshire Hathaway’s market value has risen 1,826,163% under his guidance – yet he still lives in the same house he bought for $31,500 in 1958, and prefers cheeseburgers and Cherry Coke to champagne or caviar. He was born to a working-class family who share their personal experiences with regard to volunteering. They share now it keeps them engaged, active, and focused on the things that really matter, and in most cases, is something very passionate about.

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