Successful planning is making the most of your money, now and in the future. A living trust is an unexcelled way to plan successfully.

- With a living trust, you can gain the peace-of-mind that comes from professional, personalized investment management. At the same time, our services as trustee can free you from many time-consuming tasks associated with the care and handling of securities.

- Your trust also can provide an important element of financial protection if ever you become ill or incapacitated.

- And if you wish, your trust can continue beyond your lifetime as a source of income and support for one or more loved ones.

Controlling Estate Taxes

For purposes of federal estate tax, assets held in your revocable living trust will continue to be classified as “yours,” so in that sense a trust yields no special tax advantage. However, your trust can be structured to shelter all or part of the trust fund from later tax at the death of your spouse. If you and your spouse have a large or growing estate, this planning opportunity deserves your serious attention.

How to Learn More

This introduction to living trusts won’t make you an instant expert—but it will help you see the financial planning potential. To learn more, you need only call or write us and say, “I want to know what a living trust can do for me.” A trust representative will be glad to arrange an appointment to suit your convenience.

(319) 233-1900 or (866) 235-2098

Email: info@MyLSB.com

www.MyLSB.com
People use living trusts in order to gain a variety of now-and-future advantages. Some may be more important than others in terms of your own financial planning. Let’s look at the major ones.

1. Investment Management.
In this era of rapid, often surprising economic change, the management of personal investment portfolios has become a relentlessly demanding job. Securities take on new, often confusing forms. The inflow of financial news, statistical data and market analyses has reached flood levels. Tax laws keep changing.

With a living trust, you can benefit from our professional, unbiased investment supervision. It’s our business. When we develop and maintain an investment program for you, our sole concern as trustee is to meet your requirements and protect your prosperity.

2. Convenience.
As your trustee, we’re equipped to handle every conceivable chore relating to the care and handling of investments. Trust securities are protected from fire, theft or accidental loss. All details of buying and selling are handled by us. We keep records and submit clear, comprehensive reports to you. We clip coupons, present matured or called bonds for redemption, keep track of conversion deadlines and other key dates, and do everything else that needs doing.

3. Future Self-Protection.
Medical science has made it possible for people to look forward to longer lives but still cannot promise unlimited good health and alertness. With a living trust, you can authorize us to act as your financial alter ego if ever you should become incapacitated. Using this broad authority, we would be able not only to provide full investment management but also to draw on the trust fund for your benefit: to pay household bills and taxes, for instance, and perhaps to hire a housekeeper or other necessary assistance for you.

4. Freedom to Travel.
Our ability as trustee to handle financial matters above and beyond the usual requirements of investment supervision also could prove useful to you if you look forward to traveling extensively. People who roam the world can assign us any number of special tasks here at home, ranging from the payment of recurring bills to the preparation of their tax returns.

5. Continuity.
As mentioned earlier, a living trust can continue beyond your lifetime for the benefit of others. By contrast, a trust created by will cannot become fully functional until estate assets have been identified and assembled and various legal and tax requirements have been dealt with.

6. Privacy.
A person’s will can remain private during his or her lifetime but necessarily becomes a matter of public record when probated. This sometimes leads to unwelcome results. Details concerning how shares in a family business are distributed may prove all too useful to rival enterprises. News that such-and-such a beneficiary is to receive a sizable bequest may make that beneficiary the involuntary target of investment promoters. A living trust is far less likely to attract public attention. The trust is established by private agreement and generally its terms remain confidential, shielding the family from unwanted publicity.

7. Estate Economy.
This is perhaps the best-known advantage of a living trust from an estate planning standpoint. Because the trust need not undergo the proceedings associated with probate, the overall expenses associated with estate settlement are likely to be reduced.

An Example
Let’s say that you are establishing a living trust. The trust agreement might tell us to manage the trust investments, to distribute the investment income to you at regular intervals, to invest any new funds you might add to the trust from time to time, and to pay out any sums you might wish to withdraw. If you are married, it’s likely that you would name your spouse to succeed you as primary beneficiary if she or he outlives you. At the death of your spouse, you could have the trust terminate, instructing us to divide the trust fund among your children or other beneficiaries. Or you could instruct us to continue the trust for the benefit of young beneficiaries until they reach a financially mature age.

That brief example isn’t truly typical, for no single example could be. There are thousands of possible variations. No framework for personal financial planning is more versatile.