

Objective: To answer the critical question, "Where will the money come from for the next _____ months to cover my immediate, one-time, and ongoing living expenses?"

STEP

SOURCES OF INCOME

Make a list of all possible sources of income, including the estimated amount, when it begins, and how long it will last:

- Earned income
- Social Security
 Retirement/
 Social Security
 Disability Income (SSDI)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Investment Income
- Structured Settlement Annuity
- Pension
- Other

STEP

SOURCES OF AVAILABLE CASH

Make a list of all sources of available cash that you can access without penalties or risk. Include the amount and how to access it:

- Saving account(s)
- Checking account(s)
- Money market account(s)
- Retirement account(s)
- Insurance policies that have cash value, or a term policy
- Investment account(s)
- Home equity (how much you can sell your house for vs. what you still owe)
- Other

STEP 3

DEBTS

Create a list of all your "past" debts. What are the items that would make you completely caught up if paid off?

- Credit card(s)
- Student loan(s)
- Personal loans/ people you owe
- Car loan(s)
- Mortgage
- Other

STEP 4

4 EXPENSES

Make a list of your fixed monthly expenses:

- Rent/mortgage
- Phone(s)
- Utilities
- Insurances
- Food
- Entertainment
- Vacation
- Other

STEP

NEEDS

Immediate expenditures of the "must have/need" items:

- New home
- New car
- Bed
- Wheelchair
- Attendant care
- Therapy
- Other

STEP

6 WANTS

Make a list of what you want and dream for the future:

- Vacation
- Money for family
- Cars for family
- Other

The numbers will tell us if we have a surplus and are OK, or if we are tight and need to adjust our spending, find other sources of income, etc.

This information is first used to be sure that all fixed needs are covered. After that, the information is used to figure out if a structured settlement annuity is appropriate.