

## **MONEY IS IMPORTANT ... BUT SO IS TIME!**

*How can you better balance what may sometimes feel like the competing needs of earning an income and caring for your family?*

Today's newsletter celebrates a group of people - including a few business owners - who are trying to think in new ways around this challenging equation.

***Want to be inspired about the possibility for change?*** ... Over the years we've been working with a group of leaders who are promoting a different kind of bottom line, one that prioritizes a successful business alongside supporting their employees to have time for life outside of work. Read on and be inspired.

***Enjoy this month's newsletter*** ... Today's update also includes a sneak peek at the topic we'll be discussing on our Thursday webinar. Do you find it challenging to talk about money? See what Ruth Hayden has to say about helping couples create a financial plan that reflects the 4 pillars of a new approach to money: commitment, trust, respect and compromise.

***Join us next Thursday*** ... Matt Becker, a shared care dad who helps parents work together to create short and long term financial goals, will join us on our next Thursday webinar to talk about how you too can construct a plan that helps you achieve more financial health.

Thanks for being part of the growing, vibrant, inspiring ThirdPath community!

/Jessica and the ThirdPath team

***PS - Here's another story that may inspire you why change is possible.***

## Are we willing to trade profit for greater life satisfaction?

*ThirdPath has been working with a truly inspirational group of leaders who are supporting an integrated approach to work and life from top to bottom.*

It should also probably be no surprise that some of these leaders started their own business - often a situation where innovation can transpire very rapidly.

*However - what you might not have considered, is that many of these progressive leaders are also modeling a new kind of bottom line.*

Instead of building organizations that rely on extreme performance goals in order to meet inflated bottom lines, these leaders are promoting a very different approach. They teach us "enough is enough" - putting an end to excessive work hours, and instead encouraging employees to be successful at work AND have time for life.

[Click here](#) to learn more about these progressive leaders and to listen to our Thursday webinar where they share their insights on this new approach.

We've also learned a lot about how to make your work family dreams affordable from the personal stories we've gathered from ThirdPath community members. Andrea's story is a great example of this.

*Andrea knew money was an important part of the equation, but she also wanted time to be actively involved in her family.*

After graduating from law school, Andrea decided to live well below what she earned as an attorney so she could put all of her extra savings towards paying off her student loan. Once debt free, she then kept up this modest lifestyle in order to build a nest egg that would fund a year off so she could travel and begin to look for a new place to work.

Guess where Andrea ended up working? At one of the progressive organizations we were just referencing! [Here's more](#) on how Andrea found this progressive workplace and designed her integrated approach to work and life.

**We'll be exploring how to make an integrated approach to work and family more affordable at our April 26th ILA Forum. Join us.**

## For Richer Not Poorer

*Below is a brief summary of Ruth Hayden's excellent book, **For Richer Not Poorer, The Money Book For Couples**. Whether you have money to save, or you're just making ends meet, this book helps couples learn how to work together to create a financial plan.*

### ***Whose fault is it?***

Hayden describes five different ways couples address issues around money. (1) They just keep fighting. (2) One person "takes charge" with no involvement from the other. (3) They avoid the topic. (4) They lose their marriage over this issue. (5) They learn to take equal commitment to change, and they do this without blame.

### ***So, that's why we do that!***

Hayden helps us see how our earliest experiences around money likely shaped our "money beliefs." She argues that taking a look at these can provide big insights into the struggles we may have around money. When couples do this, anger and regret may surface. But in order to create change, Hayden reminds us, kindness and compassion are essential. Or as she explains, "it's necessary to face the loss, feel the pain, accept the pain, and allow yourself to move forward with hope for the future."

### ***We're on the same side***

In the last chapters of her book Hayden describes the 4 pillars of a new approach to money: **commitment, trust, respect, compromise** (compromise means seeing how much you can stretch towards your partner without losing yourself). To develop this new approach, she encourages couples to have a series of "money meetings" and then to write down a strategy that creates a three pronged approach to their money goals -- yours, mine and ours.

***Want to learn more? Join us for our next Thursday webinar when our guest Matt Becker will discuss how we can redesign work, family, and our financial choices to better follow our dreams.***