

Working With Widows

Why Focus on Working With Widows:

70%

59.4

12M

EW WIDOW

3/4

OF WIVES
CHANGE ADVISORS
after her spouse dies¹

AVERAGE AGE of widowhood²

WIDOWS IN THE UNITED STATES³

NEW WIDOWS EVERY YEAR⁴

OF WOMEN report dissatisfaction with their advisor⁵

Given the numbers above, it's likely that one or more of your clients may become widowed this year. **Will you know what to say and do?** Working with a widow can be equally challenging and rewarding, if you have the right tools and experience to guide your client through her transition.

The Challenge

Widowhood presents a unique set of challenges for an advisor:

- Widowed client has different needs than the typical client
- Emotions and tears can be uncomfortable for the client and advisor
- Advisor is often at a loss for words
- Advisor needs to become comfortable integrating personal compassion and understanding into their role as financial advisor.
- The meeting objective is the opposite of typical client meetings: do not sell

The Opportunity

When handled correctly, the reward for the advisor working effectively with widows is a stronger client relationship that can result in additional sales later in time and **referrals**:

 A female client is likely to refer friends and family members to a trusted advisor 26 times over the course of the relationship, compared to just 11 referrals from male clients.⁶

How Protective Life's program and materials will help:

Advisor Guide

- Education on deep grief, the effects of stress on the decision-making process
- · Guidelines for Working With Widows according to their stage of grief
- Tips for helping widows avoid financial pitfalls
- · Suggestions for communicating with widows
- How to make Working With Widows a niche

Communication Guide

- · What to say, what not to say, what to write
- · What to do at the wake, according to religions/cultures
- Handling the first meeting following the death of a spouse
- Continued care

3 Stages of Widowhood brochure

- Helps widows identify current stage of grief and offers resources for support and tips for working with her advisor according to her stage of grief
- Offers encouragement to widows in early stages of grief, showing the progress she will make on her journey
- Gives advisors a productive conversation piece, and a leave behind with helpful resources

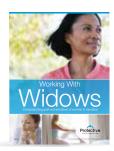
Client Seminar

- · Connecting with widows
- · Helping widows avoid common financial pitfalls
- Moving forward on their own, but not alone (with the help of their advisor)
- Opportunity for advisor to position him/herself as an advisor for widows

For materials, videos and more information on the Working With Widows program, go to www.myprotective.com/widows.

Talk to your Protective Life representative about the resources available and how you can get started in working with and serving your widowed clients.











- ¹ Spectrem Group. Study of Wealthy Women Investors. June 2011
- ² U.S. Census Bureau, May, 2011. (Number, Timing and Duration of Marriages and Divorces: 2009; Household Economic Studies)
- ³ U.S. Census Bureau. 2011 American Community Survey: Marital Status
- ⁴ U.S. Census Bureau, August 2011 (Marital Events of Americans: 2009 (American Community Survey)
- ⁵ Reshma Kapadia, "Why Women Get a Raw Deal on Retirement," Smart Money, September 20, 2010
- ⁶ Kathleen Burns Kingsbury, "Six Tips for Helping Financial Advisors Serve Female Clients," Financial Advisor, September 14, 2012