



## **COPERS Collaborates with Global Investment Company, Inc. (GIC) to Elevate Retirement Plan Training**

In August 2024, COPERS entered into an agreement with GIC, Inc. to deliver a comprehensive training initiative to empower members with a deeper understanding of their retirement options. This initiative focuses on educating employees about the Defined Benefit Pension Plan, Deferred Compensation Savings, and other retirement resources like the 401(a), 457(b), and Post-Employment Health Plan (PEHP).

For many employees, questions persist:

- Where does their money go?
- How will they access it after retirement?
- What are the most effective ways to invest?

Through this groundbreaking project, GIC, Inc. will conduct a thorough SWOT analysis, engage stakeholders through targeted interviews and focus groups, and deliver a dynamic training curriculum tailored to the needs of COPERS members. By collaborating with existing providers and departments, GIC, Inc. aims to ensure every employee gains the knowledge and confidence needed to secure a financially stable retirement.

“At Global Investment Company, Inc., we believe that financial literacy is the cornerstone of a secure retirement,” said Cathy Gent, spokesperson for GIC, Inc. “This project underscores our commitment to providing innovative, impactful solutions that empower individuals to make informed decisions about their financial futures.”

With decades of expertise and a team of seasoned professionals, GIC, Inc. is uniquely positioned to transform how COPERS members plan for and achieve their retirement goals.



## **We Want to Hear From You!**

In an ongoing effort to assess and enhance the effectiveness of retirement readiness programs for employees, COPERS and the GIC Team invite you to participate in a five-minute survey. Please use the QR code or survey link below to access the survey. Your feedback is vital!

**Response Deadline: Friday, February 28, 2025**

**[Survey Questionnaire for COPERS Plan Members](#)**



# Four Powerful Financial New Year's Resolutions for 2025

The best New Year's resolutions don't just make you feel good about your life today; they actually help set you up for a lifetime of success. Read on to discover four power moves with amazing potential.

Before joining your friends and family in hitting "post" on that "New Year, New Me" status, take a minute to consider what you really want to change this year. The information below offers a quick glimpse into taking the right steps forward. You can always learn more by registering for a variety of financial wellness and understanding events through [Nationwide](#). Remember as City employees you have free access to a Personal Retirement Consultant who offers free certified financial planning to help you along your journey. For more information on scheduling a meeting visit [here](#).

## Financial Resolution 1: Get into the Budgeting Groove

With all the budgeting apps available today, there's no excuse for not having a budget. A budget helps you keep track of money in and money out, so you don't overspend. How much are you earning? Spending? Saving? Once you've figured that out, you can start adjusting the numbers to get to your ideal budget.

Not sure where those numbers should be? Financial experts often recommend following the 50/30/20 budget guideline: allocate 50% of your monthly income for things you need, 30% for things you want, and 20% for building your savings and paying down debt.



## Financial Resolution 2: Save Something Every Month

When it comes to saving money, consistency is key. Resolve to stash a little cash away every week or month and watch your money build. Here are two great ways to go about it:

- Try the 52-week savings challenge - Put \$1 into your savings the first week, \$2 the second week, \$3 the third week — you get the idea. By the time you reach week 52, you'll be depositing \$52 and will have saved up \$1,378!
- Pay yourself first – Choose an amount and set up automatic payments from your electronic paycheck to your savings account(s). When you don't see that money in your checking account, you won't be tempted to spend it.

### **Financial Resolution 3: Take the No-Spend Challenge**

Pick one month when you'll spend absolutely nothing on things you want. Instead, deposit the money you would have spent into your savings account to give your balance an immediate boost. This would be a great way to create a short-term savings fund for those unexpected emergencies.

### **Financial Resolution 4: Review and Reflect**

It's tempting to skip this step, but it's important. Schedule time each week or month to check in on your finances and ask yourself:

- Are you on track to meet your savings goals?
- Are you paying your bills on time?
- Did you anticipate any extra financial obligations coming up?

If not, don't give up. Adjust, try again, and pat yourself on the back for the progress you've made managing your money and building your wealth.

Please know that the COPERS team is dedicated to serving you and is here to assist you.

#### **Contacting COPERS**

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