### Item 1: Cover Page



### Sweetgrass Financial Planning, LLC

1516 Nantahala Blvd Mt Pleasant, SC 29464

### Form ADV Part 2A - Firm Brochure

843-608-0231

Dated October 1st, 2023

This Brochure provides information about the qualifications and business practices of Sweetgrass Financial Planning, LLC, "SFP". If you have any questions about the contents of this Brochure, please contact us at 843-608-0231. The information in this Brochure has not been approved or verified by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or by any state securities authority.

Sweetgrass Financial Planning, LLC is registered as an Investment Adviser with the State of South Carolina. Registration of an Investment Adviser does not imply any level of skill or training.

Additional information about SFP is available on the SEC's website at <a href="www.adviserinfo.sec.gov">www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</a> which can be found using the firm's identification number 289291.

### Item 2: Material Changes

#### **Material Changes:**

The last annual update of this Brochure was filed on March 31st, 2023. The following changes have been made to this version of the Disclosure Brochure:

- Custodian information has been updated to reflect TD Ameritrade merger with Schwab.
- Comprehensive Financial Planning Fees, Hourly Fees, and Advisory Fees have changed.

#### **Future Changes**

From time to time, we may amend this Disclosure Brochure to reflect changes in our business practices, changes in regulations and routine annual updates as required by the securities regulators. This complete Disclosure Brochure or a Summary of Material Changes shall be provided to each Client annually and if a material change occurs in the business practices of SFP.

At any time, you may view the current Disclosure Brochure on-line at the SEC's Investment Adviser Public Disclosure website at http://www.adviserinfo.sec.gov by searching for our firm name or by our CRD number 289291.

You may also request a copy of this Disclosure Brochure at any time, by contacting us at 843-608-0231.

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### Item 4: Advisory Business

### **Description of Advisory Firm**

Sweetgrass Financial Planning, LLC is registered as an Investment Adviser with the State of South Carolina. We were founded in June 2017. Daniel Patterson is the principal owner of SFP. SFP currently reports no discretionary Assets Under Management and \$4,463,604 in non-discretionary Assets Under Management, as of October 1st, 2023.

### **Types of Advisory Services**

#### **Investment Management Services**

We are in the business of managing individually tailored investment portfolios. Our firm provides continuous advice to a client regarding the investment of client funds based on the individual needs of the client. Through personal discussions in which goals and objectives based on a client's particular circumstances are established, we develop a client's personal investment policy or an investment plan with an asset allocation target and create and manage a portfolio based on that policy and allocation target. During our data-gathering process, we determine the client's individual objectives, time horizons, risk tolerance, and liquidity needs. We may also review and discuss a client's prior investment history, as well as family composition and background.

Account supervision is guided by the stated objectives of the client (e.g., maximum capital appreciation, growth, income, or growth and income), as well as tax considerations. Clients may impose reasonable restrictions on investing in certain securities, types of securities, or industry sectors. Fees pertaining to this service are outlined in Item 5 of this brochure.

#### **Financial Planning**

We provide financial planning services either on an ongoing comprehensive planning basis, or on a limited engagement project basis.

Financial planning is an evaluation of a client's current and future financial state by using currently known variables to predict future cash flows, asset values and withdrawal plans. The key defining aspect of financial planning is that through the financial planning process, all questions, information and analysis will be considered as they affect and are affected by the entire financial and life situation of the client. Clients purchasing this service will receive a written or an electronic report, providing the client with a detailed financial plan designed to achieve his or her stated financial goals and objectives.

In general, the financial plan will address any or all of the following areas of concern. The client and advisor will work together to select the specific areas to cover. These areas may include, but are not limited to, the following:

• **Business Planning:** We provide consulting services for clients who currently operate their own business, are considering starting a business, or are planning for an exit from their current business. Under this type of engagement, we work with you to assess your current situation,

identify your objectives, and develop a plan aimed at achieving your goals.

- Cash Flow and Debt Management: We will conduct a review of your income and expenses to determine your current surplus or deficit along with advice on prioritizing how any surplus should be used or how to reduce expenses if they exceed your income. Advice may also be provided on which debts to pay off first based on factors such as the interest rate of the debt and any income tax ramifications. We may also recommend what we believe to be an appropriate cash reserve that should be considered for emergencies and other financial goals, along with a review of accounts (such as money market funds) for such reserves, plus strategies to save desired amounts.
- College Savings: Includes projecting the amount that will be needed to achieve college or other
  post-secondary education funding goals, along with advice on ways for you to save the desired
  amount. Recommendations as to savings strategies are included, and, if needed, we will review
  your financial picture as it relates to eligibility for financial aid or the best way to contribute to
  grandchildren (if appropriate).
- **Employee Benefits Optimization**: We will provide review and analysis as to whether you, as an employee, are taking the maximum advantage possible of your employee benefits. If you are a business owner, we will consider and/or recommend the various benefit programs that can be structured to meet both business and personal retirement goals.
- Estate Planning: This usually includes an analysis of your exposure to estate taxes and your
  current estate plan, which may include whether you have a will, powers of attorney, trusts and
  other related documents. Our advice also typically includes ways for you to minimize or avoid
  future estate taxes by implementing appropriate estate planning strategies such as the use of
  applicable trusts.

We always recommend that you consult with a qualified attorney when you initiate, update, or complete estate planning activities. We may provide you with contact information for attorneys who specialize in estate planning when you wish to hire an attorney for such purposes. From time-to-time, we will participate in meetings or phone calls between you and your attorney with your approval or request.

• **Financial Goals**: We will help clients identify financial goals and develop a plan to reach them. We will identify what you plan to accomplish, what resources you will need to make it happen, how much time you will need to reach the goal, and how much you should budget for your goal.

- **Insurance**: Review of existing policies to ensure proper coverage for life, health, disability, long-term care, liability, home and automobile.
- Investment Analysis: This may involve developing an asset allocation strategy to meet clients' financial goals and risk tolerance, providing information on investment vehicles and strategies, reviewing employee stock options, as well as assisting you in establishing your own investment account at a selected broker/dealer or custodian. The strategies and types of investments we may recommend are further discussed in Item 8 of this brochure.
- Retirement Planning: Our retirement planning services typically include projections of your likelihood of achieving your financial goals, typically focusing on financial independence as the primary objective. For situations where projections show less than the desired results, we may make recommendations, including those that may impact the original projections by adjusting certain variables (e.g., working longer, saving more, spending less, taking more risk with investments).

If you are near retirement or already retired, advice may be given on appropriate distribution strategies to minimize the likelihood of running out of money or having to adversely alter spending during your retirement years.

- Risk Management: A risk management review includes an analysis of your exposure to major
  risks that could have a significant adverse impact on your financial picture, such as premature
  death, disability, property and casualty losses, or the need for long-term care planning. Advice
  may be provided on ways to minimize such risks and about weighing the costs of purchasing
  insurance versus the benefits of doing so and, likewise, the potential cost of not purchasing
  insurance ("self-insuring").
- Tax Planning Strategies: Advice may include ways to minimize current and future income taxes as a part of your overall financial planning picture. For example, we may make recommendations on which type of account(s) or specific investments should be owned based in part on their "tax efficiency," with consideration that there is always a possibility of future changes to federal, state or local tax laws and rates that may impact your situation.

We recommend that you consult with a qualified tax professional before initiating any tax planning strategy, and we may provide you with contact information for accountants or attorneys who specialize in this area if you wish to hire someone for such purposes. We will participate in meetings or phone calls between you and your tax professional with your approval.

#### **Project Based Financial Planning**

We provide Project Based Financial Planning engagements in several formats, determined by the needs and objectives of the client.

Our **Quick Start Program** is designed to help clients answer 2-3 of their most pressing questions and to provide an introduction to financial planning.

Our standard **Financial Planning Fixed Fee** option is for clients that wish to work with a planner on a project basis that is usually more limited in scope and focus, as opposed to an ongoing comprehensive financial planning basis. This service typically will cover a couple aspects of the client's financial situation, goals, and objectives that are of primary concern to the client.

We also offer **Hourly Financial Planning** for limited engagements in which the client wishes to work with the adviser on more narrow focused projects on an hourly basis.

#### **Comprehensive Financial Planning**

This service involves working one-on-one with a planner over an extended period of time. By paying a monthly/quarterly retainer, clients get continuous access to a planner who will work with them to design their plan. The planner will monitor the plan, recommend any changes and ensure the plan is up to date.

Upon desiring a comprehensive plan, a client will be taken through establishing their goals and values around money. They will be required to provide information to help complete the following areas of analysis: net worth, cash flow, insurance, credit scores/reports, employee benefit, retirement planning, insurance, investments, college planning and estate planning. Once the client's information is reviewed, their plan will be built and analyzed, and then the findings, analysis and potential changes to their current situation will be reviewed with the client. Clients subscribing to this service will receive a written or an electronic report, providing the client with a detailed financial plan designed to achieve his or her stated financial goals and objectives. If a follow up meeting is required, we will meet at the client's convenience. The plan and the client's financial situation and goals will be monitored throughout the year and follow-up phone calls and emails will be made to the client to confirm that any agreed upon action steps have been carried out. On an annual basis there will be a full review of this plan to ensure its accuracy and ongoing appropriateness. Any needed updates will be implemented at that time.

### **Client Tailored Services and Client Imposed Restrictions**

We offer the same suite of services to all of our clients. However, specific client financial plans and their implementation are dependent upon the client Investment Policy Statement which outlines each client's current situation (income, tax levels, and risk tolerance levels) and is used to construct a client specific plan to aid in the selection of a portfolio that matches restrictions, needs, and targets.

### Wrap Fee Programs

We do not participate in wrap fee programs.

### Item 5: Fees and Compensation

Please note, unless a client has received the firm's disclosure brochure at least 48 hours prior to signing the investment advisory contract, the investment advisory contract may be terminated by the client within five (5) business days of signing the contract without incurring any advisory fees. How we are paid depends on the type of advisory service we are performing. Please review the fee and compensation information below.

### **Investment Management Services**

Investment management services are included in the Comprehensive Financial Planning Fee for Comprehensive Planning Clients.

Our standard advisory fee for clients who are only participating in Investment Management Services is calculated as follows:

### **Fee for Investment Only Clients**

Range of Assets	Annual Fee
\$0 - \$25,000	1.20%
\$25,001 - \$1,000,000	0.90%
\$1,000,001 - \$3,000,000	0.70%
\$3,000,001 - \$5,000,000	0.25%
\$5,000,001+	0.15%

The annual fees are negotiable and are pro-rated and paid in arrears on a monthly basis. The advisory fee is a blended fee and is calculated by assessing the percentage rates using the predefined levels of assets as shown in the above chart, and applying the fee to the account value as of the last day of the previous month, resulting in a combined weighted fee.

For example, an Investment Only client with an account valued at \$1,500,000 would pay an effective fee of 0.84% with the annual fee of \$8,825. The monthly fee is determined by the following calculation: (( $$25,000 \times 1.20\%$ ) + ( $$975,000 \times 0.90\%$ ) + ( $$500,000 \times 0.70\%$ )) ÷ 12 = \$1047.92.

No increase in the annual fee shall be effective without agreement from the client by signing a new agreement or amendment to their current advisory agreement.

Advisory fees are directly debited from client accounts, or the client may choose to pay by check. Accounts initiated or terminated during a calendar month will be charged a pro-rated fee based on the amount of time remaining in the billing period. An account may be terminated with written notice at least 30 calendar days in advance. Since fees are paid in arrears, no rebate will be needed upon termination of the account.

SFP may, in its sole discretion, negotiate a fee less than the stated fee schedule above based upon certain criteria (i.e., anticipated future earning capacity, related existing client relationships, pre-existing client, pro bono activities, etc.).

### **Comprehensive Financial Planning**

Comprehensive Financial Planning consists of an upfront charge of \$1000 - \$4000 and an ongoing fee that is paid monthly, in arrears, of \$250-\$800 and is based on the complexity and individual needs of the client. This ongoing fee includes free investment management on the first \$500,000 of Assets Under Management. An additional ongoing, monthly fee, charged in arrears will be assessed on assets above that amount at the below fee schedule (the fee is a blended rate of the below brackets):

**Fee for Comprehensive Planning Clients** 

Range of Assets	Annual Fee
\$0 - \$500,000	Included in Comprehensive Planning Fee
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	1.00%
\$1,000,001 - \$3,000,000	0.75%
\$3,000,001 - \$5,000,000	0.50%
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	0.25%
\$10,000,001+	0.15%

For example, if a client has a base ongoing financial planning fee of \$400 a month and has \$1,500,000 of assets under management, then the total financial planning fee will be the base \$400 monthly fee plus an additional ongoing monthly fee of \$729.17 (( $$500,000 \times 1\%$ )+(\$500,000\*0.7%))  $\div 12$ ) for the additional assets over management over \$500,000, for a total ongoing monthly financial planning of \$1129.17 (0.9% annualized).

The additional Assets Under Management fee is based on asset values on the last day of every month. The fee may be negotiable in certain cases. Fees for this service may be paid monthly by electronic funds transfer,

by check, or, for households with at least \$500,000 in assets under management with Sweetgrass Financial Planning, directly debited from client accounts. This service may be terminated with 30 days' notice. Upon termination of any account, any prepaid fees will be prorated and any unearned fee will be refunded to the client. Since ongoing fees are paid in arrears, no rebate for ongoing fees will be needed upon termination of the account.

### **Quick Start Program**

The Quick Start Program is designed to help clients answer 2-3 of their most pressing questions and to provide an introduction to financial planning. The number of questions included in the Quick Start Program will be based on the complexity of the questions and will be agreed upon before the start of any work. The program is a fixed fee financial planning agreement that costs \$500, which is due at the beginning of the engagement.

### **Project-Based Financial Planning Fixed Fee**

Financial Planning agreements with a limited scope (one or two areas of planning that were outlined in item 4) will generally be offered on a fixed fee basis. The fixed fee will be agreed upon before the start of any work. The fixed fee can range between \$300 and \$2000, depending on the complexity of the case. The fee is negotiable. SFP will not bill an amount above \$500.00 more than 6 months in advance. Fees for this service may be paid by electronic funds transfer or check. Upon termination, the half of the fee that is due up front will be non-refundable, and no further fees will be charged.

### **Financial Planning Hourly Fee**

In some instances, Financial Planning agreements that are limited in scope may be offered at an hourly rate. This rate ranges between \$250 and \$500 per hour, depending on complexity. The fee may be negotiable in certain cases and is due at the completion of the engagement. In the event of early termination by client, any fees for the hours already worked will be due. Fees for this service may be paid by electronic funds transfer or check.

### **Other Types of Fees and Expenses**

Our fees are exclusive of brokerage commissions, transaction fees, and other related costs and expenses which may be incurred by the client. Clients may incur certain charges imposed by custodians, brokers, and other third parties such as custodial fees, deferred sales charges, odd-lot differentials, transfer taxes, wire transfer and electronic fund fees, and other fees and taxes on brokerage accounts and securities transactions. Mutual fund and exchange traded funds also charge internal management fees, which are disclosed in a fund's prospectus. Such charges, fees and commissions are exclusive of and in addition to our fee, and we shall not receive any portion of these commissions, fees, and costs.

Item 12 further describes the factors that we consider in selecting or recommending broker-dealers for client's transactions and determining the reasonableness of their compensation (e.g., commissions).

We do not accept compensation for the sale of securities or other investment products including asset-based sales charges or service fees from the sale of mutual funds.

# Item 6: Performance-Based Fees and Side-By-Side Management

We do not offer performance-based fees.

### Item 7: Types of Clients

We provide financial planning and portfolio management services to individuals, high net-worth individuals, and corporations or other businesses.

We do not have a minimum account size requirement.

# Item 8: Methods of Analysis, Investment Strategies and Risk of Loss

When clients have us complete an Investment Analysis (described in Item 4 of this brochure) as part of their financial plan, our primary method of investment analysis is fundamental.

**Fundamental analysis** involves analyzing individual companies and their industry groups, such as a company's financial statements, details regarding the company's product line, the experience, and expertise of the company's management, and the outlook for the company's industry. The resulting data is used to measure the true value of the company's stock compared to the current market value. The risk of fundamental analysis is that information obtained may be incorrect and the analysis may not provide an accurate estimate of earnings, which may be the basis for a stock's value. If securities prices adjust rapidly to new information, utilizing fundamental analysis may not result in favorable performance.

#### **Passive Investment Management Strategy**

We primarily practice passive investment management. Passive investing involves building portfolios that are comprised of various distinct asset classes. The asset classes are weighted in a manner to achieve a desired relationship between correlation, risk and return. Funds that passively capture the returns of the desired asset classes are placed in the portfolio. The funds that are used to build passive portfolios are typically index mutual funds or exchange traded funds.

Passive investment management is characterized by low portfolio expenses (i.e. the funds inside the portfolio have low internal costs), minimal trading costs (due to infrequent trading activity), and relative tax efficiency (because the funds inside the portfolio are tax efficient and turnover inside the portfolio is minimal).

In contrast, active management involves a single manager or managers who employ some method, strategy or technique to construct a portfolio that is intended to generate returns that are greater than the broader market or a designated benchmark. Academic research indicates most active managers underperform the market.

#### **Material Risks Involved**

All investing strategies we offer involve risk and may result in a loss of your original investment which you should be prepared to bear. Many of these risks apply equally to stocks, bonds, commodities and any other investment or security. Material risks associated with our investment strategies are listed below.

**Market Risk:** Market risk involves the possibility that an investment's current market value will fall because of a general market decline, reducing the value of the investment regardless of the operational success of the issuer's operations or its financial condition.

Strategy Risk: The Adviser's investment strategies and/or investment techniques may not work as intended.

**Small and Medium Cap Company Risk:** Securities of companies with small and medium market capitalizations are often more volatile and less liquid than investments in larger companies. Small and medium cap companies may face a greater risk of business failure, which could increase the volatility of the client's portfolio.

**Turnover Risk:** At times, the strategy may have a portfolio turnover rate that is higher than other strategies. A high portfolio turnover would result in correspondingly greater brokerage commission expenses and may result in the distribution of additional capital gains for tax purposes. These factors may negatively affect the account's performance.

**Interest Rate Risk:** Bond (fixed income) prices generally fall when interest rates rise, and the value may fall below par value or the principal investment. The opposite is also generally true: bond prices generally rise when interest rates fall. In general, fixed income securities with longer maturities are more sensitive to these price changes. Most other investments are also sensitive to the level and direction of interest rates.

**Legal or Legislative Risk**: Legislative changes or Court rulings may impact the value of investments, or the securities' claim on the issuer's assets and finances.

**Inflation**: Inflation may erode the buying-power of your investment portfolio, even if the dollar value of your investments remains the same.

### **Risks Associated with Securities**

Apart from the general risks outlined above which apply to all types of investments, specific securities may have other risks.

**Common stocks** may go up and down in price quite dramatically, and in the event of an issuer's bankruptcy or restructuring could lose all value. A slower-growth or recessionary economic environment could have an adverse effect on the price of all stocks.

Corporate Bonds are debt securities to borrow money. Generally, issuers pay investors periodic interest and repay the amount borrowed either periodically during the life of the security and/or at maturity. Alternatively, investors can purchase other debt securities, such as zero coupon bonds, which do not pay current interest, but rather are priced at a discount from their face values and their values accrete over time to face value at maturity. The market prices of debt securities fluctuate depending on such factors as interest rates, credit quality, and maturity. In general, market prices of debt securities decline when interest rates rise and increase when interest rates fall. The longer the time to a bond's maturity, the greater its interest rate risk.

**Municipal Bonds** are debt obligations generally issued to obtain funds for various public purposes, including the construction of public facilities. Municipal bonds pay a lower rate of return than most other types of bonds. However, because of a municipal bond's tax-favored status, investors should compare the relative after-tax return to the after-tax return of other bonds, depending on the investor's tax bracket. Investing in municipal bonds carries the same general risks as investing in bonds in general. Those risks include interest rate risk, reinvestment risk, inflation risk, market risk, call or redemption risk, credit risk, and liquidity and valuation risk.

**Options and other derivatives** carry many unique risks, including time-sensitivity, and can result in the complete loss of principal. While covered call writing does provide a partial hedge to the stock against which the call is written, the hedge is limited to the amount of cash flow received when writing the option. When selling covered calls, there is a risk the underlying position may be called away at a price lower than the current market price.

**Exchange Traded Funds** prices may vary significantly from the Net Asset Value due to market conditions. Certain Exchange Traded Funds may not track underlying benchmarks as expected.

**Investment Companies Risk**. When a client invests in open end mutual funds or ETFs, the client indirectly bears its proportionate share of any fees and expenses payable directly by those funds. Therefore, the client will incur higher expenses, many of which may be duplicative. In addition, the client's overall portfolio may be affected by losses of an underlying fund and the level of risk arising from the investment practices of an underlying fund (such as the use of derivatives). ETFs are also subject to the following risks: (i) an ETF's shares may trade at a market price that is above or below their net asset value; (ii) the ETF may employ an investment strategy that utilizes high leverage ratios; or (iii) trading of an ETF's shares may be halted if the listing exchange's officials deem such action appropriate, the shares are de-listed from the exchange, or the activation of market-wide "circuit breakers" (which are tied to large decreases in stock prices) halts stock trading generally. The Adviser has no control over the risks taken by the underlying funds in which client's invest.

### Item 9: Disciplinary Information

#### **Criminal or Civil Actions**

SFP and its management have not been involved in any criminal or civil action.

### **Administrative Enforcement Proceedings**

SFP and its management have not been involved in administrative enforcement proceedings.

### **Self-Regulatory Organization Enforcement Proceedings**

SFP and its management have not been involved in legal or disciplinary events that are material to a client's or prospective client's evaluation of SFP or the integrity of its management.

# Item 10: Other Financial Industry Activities and Affiliations

No SFP employee is registered, or have an application pending to register, as a broker-dealer or a registered representative of a broker-dealer.

No SFP employee is registered, or have an application pending to register, as a futures commission merchant, commodity pool operator or a commodity trading advisor.

SFP does not have any related parties. As a result, we do not have a relationship with any related parties.

SFP only receives compensation directly from clients. We do not receive compensation from any outside source. We do not have any conflicts of interest with any outside party.

#### **Recommendations or Selections of Sub-Advisers**

SFP does not currently use any Sub-advisers.

# Item 11: Code of Ethics, Participation or Interest in Client Transactions and Personal Trading

As a fiduciary, our firm and its associates have a duty of utmost good faith to act solely in the best interests of each client. Our clients entrust us with their funds and personal information, which in turn places a high standard on our conduct and integrity. Our fiduciary duty is a core aspect of our Code of Ethics and represents the expected basis of all of our dealings. The firm also adheres to the Code of Ethics and Professional Responsibility adopted by the CFP® Board of Standards Inc., and accepts the obligation not only to comply with the mandates and requirements of all applicable laws and regulations but also to take responsibility to act in an ethical and professionally responsible manner in all professional services and activities.

### **Code of Ethics Description**

This code does not attempt to identify all possible conflicts of interest, and literal compliance with each of its specific provisions will not shield associated persons from liability for personal trading or other conduct that violates a fiduciary duty to advisory clients. A summary of the Code of Ethics' Principles is outlined below.

- Integrity Associated persons shall offer and provide professional services with integrity.
- Objectivity Associated persons shall be objective in providing professional services to clients.

- Competence Associated persons shall provide services to clients competently and maintain the necessary knowledge and skill to continue to do so in those areas in which they are engaged.
- Fairness Associated persons shall perform professional services in a manner that is fair and reasonable
  to clients, principals, partners, and employers, and shall disclose conflict(s) of interest in providing such
  services.
- Confidentiality Associated persons shall not disclose confidential client information without the specific consent of the client unless in response to proper legal process, or as required by law.
- Professionalism Associated persons' conduct in all matter shall reflect credit of the profession.
- Diligence Associated persons shall act diligently in providing professional services.

We periodically review and amend our Code of Ethics to ensure that it remains current, and we require all firm access persons to attest to their understanding of and adherence to the Code of Ethics at least annually. Our firm will provide of copy of its Code of Ethics to any client or prospective client upon request.

### Investment Recommendations Involving a Material Financial Interest and Conflicts of Interest

Neither our firm, its associates or any related person is authorized to recommend to a client, or effect a transaction for a client, involving any security in which our firm or a related person has a material financial interest, such as in the capacity as an underwriter, adviser to the issuer, etc.

### Advisory Firm Purchase of Same Securities Recommended to Clients and Conflicts of Interest

Our firm and its "related persons" may buy or sell securities similar to, or different from, those we recommend to clients for their accounts. In an effort to reduce or eliminate certain conflicts of interest involving the firm or personal trading, our policy may require that we restrict or prohibit associates' transactions in specific reportable securities transactions. Any exceptions or trading pre-clearance must be approved by the firm principal in advance of the transaction in an account, and we maintain the required personal securities transaction records per regulation.

### **Trading Securities At/Around the Same Time as Client's Securities**

From time to time, our firm or its "related persons" may buy or sell securities for themselves at or around the same time as clients. We will not trade non-mutual fund securities 24 hours prior to the same security for clients.

### Item 12: Brokerage Practices

#### **Factors Used to Select Custodians**

Advisor does not have any affiliation with any custodian we recommend. Specific custodian recommendations are made to the Client based on their need for such services. We recommend custodians based on the reputation and services provided by the firm.

In recommending custodians, we have an obligation to seek the "best execution" of transactions in Client accounts. The determinative factor in the analysis of best execution is not the lowest possible commission cost, but whether the transaction represents the best qualitative execution, taking into consideration the full range of the custodian's services. The factors we consider when evaluating a custodian for best execution include, without limitation, the custodian's:

- Combination of transaction execution services and asset custody services (generally without a separate fee for custody);
- Capability to execute, clear, and settle trades (buy and sell securities for your account);
- Capability to facilitate transfers and payments to and from accounts (wire transfers, check requests, bill payment, etc.);
- Breadth of available investment products (stocks, bonds, mutual funds, exchange-traded funds (ETFs), etc.);
- Availability of investment research and tools that assist us in making investment decisions
- Quality of services;
- Competitiveness of the price of those services (commission rates, margin interest rates, other fees, etc.)
   and willingness to negotiate the prices;
- Reputation, financial strength, security and stability;
- Prior service to us and our clients.

With this in consideration, our firm recommends Charles Schwab & Co., Inc., a registered broker-dealer, member FINRA and SIPC ("Schwab"). Although Clients may request us to use a custodian of their choosing, we generally recommend that Clients open brokerage accounts with Schwab. We are not affiliated with Schwab. The Client will ultimately make the final decision of the custodian to be used to hold the Client's investments by signing the selected custodian's account opening documentation.

#### **Research and Other Soft-Dollar Benefits**

Advisor does not have any soft-dollar arrangements with custodians whereby soft-dollar credits, used to purchase products and services, are earned directly in proportion to the amount of commissions paid by a Client. However, as a result of being on their institutional platform, Schwab may provide us with certain services and products that may benefit us. All such soft dollar benefits are consistent with the safe harbor contained in Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

Schwab Advisor Services<sup>™</sup> is Schwab's business serving independent investment advisory firms like us. They provide our Clients and us with access to their institutional brokerage services (trading, custody, reporting and related services), many of which are not typically available to Schwab retail customers. Schwab also makes available various support services. Some of those services help us manage or administer our Clients' accounts, while others help us manage and grow our business. Schwab's support services are generally available on an

unsolicited basis (we don't have to request them) and at no charge to us. The benefits received by Advisor or its personnel do not depend on the number of brokerage transactions directed to Schwab. As part of its fiduciary duties to Clients, Advisor at all times must put the interests of its Clients first. Clients should be aware, however, that the receipt of economic benefits by Advisor or its related persons in and of itself creates a potential conflict of interest and may indirectly influence the Advisor's choice of Schwab for custody and brokerage services. This conflict of interest is mitigated as Advisor regularly reviews the factors used to select custodians to ensure our recommendation is appropriate. Following is a more detailed description of Schwab's support services:

- 1. Services that benefit you. Schwab's institutional brokerage services include access to a broad range of investment products, execution of securities transactions, and custody of Client assets. The investment products available through Schwab include some to which we might not otherwise have access or that would require a significantly higher minimum initial investment by our Clients. Schwab's services described in this paragraph generally benefit you and your account.
- 2. Services that may not directly benefit you. Schwab also makes available to us other products and services that benefit us but may not directly benefit you or your account. These products and services assist us in managing and administering our Clients' accounts. They include investment research, both Schwab's own and that of third parties. We may use this research to service all or a substantial number of our Clients' accounts, including accounts not maintained at Schwab. In addition to investment research, Schwab also makes available software and other technology that:
- · provide access to Client account data (such as duplicate trade confirmations and account statements)
- · facilitate trade execution and allocate aggregated trade orders for multiple Client accounts
- · provide pricing and other market data
- · facilitate payment of our fees from our Clients' accounts
- · assist with back-office functions, recordkeeping, and Client reporting
- 3. Services that generally benefit only us. Schwab also offers other services intended to help us manage and further develop our business enterprise. These services include:
- · Educational conferences and events
- · Consulting on technology, compliance, legal, and business needs
- · Publications and conferences on practice management and business succession
- 4. Your brokerage and custody costs. For our Clients' accounts that Schwab maintains, Schwab generally does not charge you separately for custody services but is compensated by charging you commissions or other fees on trades that it executes or that settle into your Schwab account. Certain trades (for example, many mutual funds and ETFs) may not incur Schwab commissions or transaction fees.

### **Brokerage for Client Referrals**

We receive no referrals from a custodian, broker-dealer or third party in exchange for using that custodian, broker-dealer or third party.

### Clients Directing Which Broker/Dealer/Custodian to Use

We do recommend a specific custodian for Clients to use, however, Clients may custody their assets at a custodian of their choice. Clients may also direct us to use a specific custodian to execute transactions. By allowing Clients to choose a specific custodian, we may be unable to achieve the most favorable execution of Client transactions and this may cost Clients money over using a lower-cost custodian.

### **Aggregating (Block) Trading for Multiple Client Accounts**

Investment advisers may elect to purchase or sell the same securities for several clients at approximately the same time when they believe such action may prove advantageous to clients. This process is referred to as aggregating orders, batch trading or block trading. We do not engage in block trading. It should be noted that implementing trades on a block or aggregate basis may be less expensive for client accounts; however, it is our trading policy to implement all client orders on an individual basis. Therefore, we do not aggregate or "block" client transactions. Considering the types of investments we hold in advisory client accounts, we do not believe clients are hindered in any way because we trade accounts individually. This is because we develop individualized investment strategies for clients and holdings will vary. Our strategies are primarily developed for the long-term and minor differences in price execution are not material to our overall investment strategy.

### Item 13: Review of Accounts

Client accounts with the Investment Management Service will be reviewed regularly on a quarterly basis by Daniel Patterson, Owner and CCO. The account is reviewed with regards to the client's investment policies and risk tolerance levels. Events that may trigger a special review would be unusual performance, addition or deletions of client imposed restrictions, excessive draw-down, volatility in performance, or buy and sell decisions from the firm or per client's needs.

Clients will receive trade confirmations from the broker(s) for each transaction in their accounts as well as monthly or quarterly statements and annual tax reporting statements from their custodian showing all activity in the accounts, such as receipt of dividends and interest.

SFP will provide written reports to Investment Management clients on a quarterly basis. We urge clients to compare these reports against the account statements they receive from their custodian.

# Item 14: Client Referrals and Other Compensation

We do not receive any economic benefit, directly or indirectly, from any third party for advice rendered to our clients. Nor do we, directly or indirectly, compensate any person who is not advisory personnel for client referrals.

We receive a non-economic benefit from Betterment for Advisors and Betterment Securities in the form of the support products and services it makes available to us and other independent investment advisors whose clients maintain their accounts at Betterment Securities. These products and services, how they benefit us, and the related conflicts of interest are described above (see Item 12—Brokerage Practices). The availability to us of Betterment for Advisors' and Betterment Securities' products and services is not based on us giving particular investment advice, such as buying particular securities for our clients.

We receive a non-economic benefit from TD Ameritrade in the form of the support products and services it makes available to us and other independent investment advisors whose clients maintain their accounts at TD Ameritrade. These products and services, how they benefit us, and the related conflicts of interest are described above (see Item 12—Brokerage Practices). The availability to us of TD Ameritrade's products and services is not based on us giving particular investment advice, such as buying particular securities for our clients.

### Item 15: Custody

SFP does not accept custody of client funds except in the instance of withdrawing client fees.

For client accounts in which SFP directly debits their advisory fee:

- SFP will send a copy of its invoice to the custodian at the same time that it sends the client a copy.
- ii. The custodian will send at least quarterly statements to the client showing all disbursements for the account, including the amount of the advisory fee.
- iii. The client will prove written authorization to SFP, permitting them to be paid directly for their accounts held by the custodian.

Clients should receive at least quarterly statements from the broker dealer, bank or other qualified custodian that holds and maintains client's investment assets. We urge you to carefully review such statements and compare such official custodial records to the account statements or reports that we may provide to you. Our statements or reports may vary from custodial statements based on accounting procedures, reporting dates, or valuation methodologies of certain securities.

### Item 16: Investment Discretion

For those client accounts where we provide investment management services, we do not maintain discretion over client accounts with respect to securities to be bought and sold and the amount of securities to be bought and sold. We will require client authorization prior to making any changes in their account. Investment discretion is explained to clients in detail when an advisory relationship has commenced.

### Item 17: Voting Client Securities

We do not vote Client proxies. Therefore, Clients maintain exclusive responsibility for: (1) voting proxies, and (2) acting on corporate actions pertaining to the Client's investment assets. The Client shall instruct the Client's qualified custodian to forward to the Client copies of all proxies and shareholder communications relating to the Client's investment assets. If the client would like our opinion on a particular proxy vote, they may contact us at the number listed on the cover of this brochure.

In most cases, you will receive proxy materials directly from the account custodian. However, in the event we were to receive any written or electronic proxy materials, we would forward them directly to you by mail, unless you have authorized our firm to contact you by electronic mail, in which case, we would forward you any electronic solicitation to vote proxies.

### Item 18: Financial Information

Registered Investment Advisers are required in this Item to provide you with certain financial information or disclosures about our financial condition. We have no financial commitment that impairs our ability to meet contractual and fiduciary commitments to clients, and we have not been the subject of a bankruptcy proceeding.

We do not have custody of client funds or securities or require or solicit prepayment of more than \$500 in fees per client six months in advance.

# Item 19: Requirements for State-Registered Advisers

#### **Daniel Patterson**

Born: 1985

### **Educational Background**

- 05/2010, Masters in Business Administration, Oral Roberts University
- 05/2008, Bachelors in Biblical Literature, Oral Roberts University

### **Business Experience**

- 06/2017 Present, Sweetgrass Financial Planning, LLC, Owner and CCO
- 01/2017 05/2017, Unemployed
- 07/2013 11/2016, Cetera Advisors, Financial Representative/IAR
- 01/2013 06/2013, Unemployed
- 11/2010 12/2012, Northwestern Mutual Investment Services, LLC, Registered Representative
- 11/2010 12/2012, Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, Agent
- 05/2010 10/2010, Unemployed
- 08/2008 05/2010, Full Time MBA Student, Full Time Student

### **Professional Designations, Licensing & Exams**

**CFP (Certified Financial Planner)®:** The CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER<sup>™</sup>, CFP® and federally registered CFP (with flame design) marks (collectively, the "CFP® marks") are professional certification marks granted in the United States by the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc. ("CFP Board").

The CFP® certification is a voluntary certification; no federal or state law or regulation requires financial planners to hold CFP® certification. It is recognized in the United States and a number of other countries for its (1) high standard of professional education; (2) stringent code of conduct and standards of practice; and (3) ethical requirements that govern professional engagements with clients. Currently, more than 71,000 individuals have obtained CFP® certification in the United States.

To attain the right to use the CFP® marks, an individual must satisfactorily fulfill the following requirements:

Education – Complete an advanced college-level course of study addressing the financial
planning subject areas that CFP Board's studies have determined as necessary for the
competent and professional delivery of financial planning services, and attain a Bachelor's
Degree from a regionally accredited United States college or university (or its equivalent from a
foreign university). CFP Board's financial planning subject areas include insurance planning and
risk management, employee benefits planning, investment planning, income tax planning,
retirement planning, and estate planning;

- Examination Pass the comprehensive CFP® Certification Examination. The examination includes case studies and client scenarios designed to test one's ability to correctly diagnose financial planning issues and apply one's knowledge of financial planning to real world circumstances;
- Experience Complete at least three years of full-time financial planning-related experience (or the equivalent, measured as 2,000 hours per year); and
- Ethics Agree to be bound by CFP Board's *Standards of Professional Conduct*, a set of documents outlining the ethical and practice standards for CFP®professionals.

Individuals who become certified must complete the following ongoing education and ethics requirements in order to maintain the right to continue to use the CFP® marks:

- Continuing Education Complete 30 hours of continuing education hours every two years, including two hours on the *Code of Ethics* and other parts of the *Standards of Professional Conduct*, to maintain competence and keep up with developments in the financial planning field; and
- Ethics Renew an agreement to be bound by the *Standards of Professional Conduct*. The *Standards* prominently require that CFP® professionals provide financial planning services at a fiduciary standard of care. This means CFP®professionals must provide financial planning services in the best interests of their clients.

CFP® professionals who fail to comply with the above standards and requirements may be subject to CFP Board's enforcement process, which could result in suspension or permanent revocation of their CFP® certification.

#### FINRA Series 65 - Uniform Investment Adviser Law Examination

#### **Other Business Activities**

Daniel Patterson is not involved with outside business activities.

#### **Performance Based Fees**

SFP is not compensated by performance-based fees.

#### **Material Disciplinary Disclosures**

No management person at Sweetgrass Financial Planning, LLC has ever been involved in an arbitration claim of any kind or been found liable in a civil, self-regulatory organization, or administrative proceeding.

#### **Material Relationships That Management Persons Have With Issuers of Securities**

Sweetgrass Financial Planning, LLC, nor Daniel Patterson, have any relationship or arrangement with issuers of securities.

### Sweetgrass Financial Planning, LLC

1516 Nantahala Blvd Mt Pleasant, SC 29464 843-608-0231

Dated March 17, 2022

### Form ADV Part 2B – Brochure Supplement

For

### Daniel Patterson - Individual CRD# 5852280

### Owner, and Chief Compliance Officer

This brochure supplement provides information about Daniel Patterson that supplements the Sweetgrass Financial Planning, LLC ("SFP") brochure. A copy of that brochure precedes this supplement. Please contact Daniel Patterson if the SFP brochure is not included with this supplement or if you have any questions about the contents of this supplement.

Additional information about Daniel Patterson is available on the SEC's website at <a href="www.adviserinfo.sec.gov">www.adviserinfo.sec.gov</a> which can be found using the identification number 5852280.

# Item 2: Educational Background and Business Experience

#### **Daniel Patterson**

Born: 1985

### **Educational Background**

- 05/2010, Masters in Business Administration, Oral Roberts University
- 05/2008, Bachelors in Biblical Literature, Oral Roberts University

### **Business Experience**

- 06/2017 Present, Sweetgrass Financial Planning, LLC, Owner and CCO
- 01/2017 05/2017, Unemployed
- 07/2013 11/2016, Cetera Advisors, Financial Representative/IAR
- 01/2013 06/2013, Unemployed
- 11/2010 12/2012, Northwestern Mutual Investment Services, LLC, Registered Representative
- 11/2010 12/2012, Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, Agent
- 05/2010 10/2010, Unemployed
- 08/2008 05/2010, Full Time MBA Student, Full Time Student

### **Professional Designations, Licensing & Exams**

**CFP (Certified Financial Planner)®:** The CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER<sup>™</sup>, CFP® and federally registered CFP (with flame design) marks (collectively, the "CFP® marks") are professional certification marks granted in the United States by the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards, Inc. ("CFP Board").

The CFP® certification is a voluntary certification; no federal or state law or regulation requires financial planners to hold CFP® certification. It is recognized in the United States and a number of other countries for its (1) high standard of professional education; (2) stringent code of conduct and standards of practice; and (3) ethical requirements that govern professional engagements with clients. Currently, more than 71,000 individuals have obtained CFP® certification in the United States.

To attain the right to use the CFP® marks, an individual must satisfactorily fulfill the following requirements:

Education – Complete an advanced college-level course of study addressing the financial
planning subject areas that CFP Board's studies have determined as necessary for the
competent and professional delivery of financial planning services, and attain a Bachelor's
Degree from a regionally accredited United States college or university (or its equivalent from a
foreign university). CFP Board's financial planning subject areas include insurance planning and
risk management, employee benefits planning, investment planning, income tax planning,
retirement planning, and estate planning;

- Examination Pass the comprehensive CFP® Certification Examination. The examination includes case studies and client scenarios designed to test one's ability to correctly diagnose financial planning issues and apply one's knowledge of financial planning to real world circumstances;
- Experience Complete at least three years of full-time financial planning-related experience (or the equivalent, measured as 2,000 hours per year); and
- Ethics Agree to be bound by CFP Board's *Standards of Professional Conduct*, a set of documents outlining the ethical and practice standards for CFP®professionals.

Individuals who become certified must complete the following ongoing education and ethics requirements in order to maintain the right to continue to use the CFP® marks:

- Continuing Education Complete 30 hours of continuing education hours every two years, including two hours on the *Code of Ethics* and other parts of the *Standards of Professional Conduct*, to maintain competence and keep up with developments in the financial planning field; and
- Ethics Renew an agreement to be bound by the *Standards of Professional Conduct*. The *Standards* prominently require that CFP® professionals provide financial planning services at a fiduciary standard of care. This means CFP®professionals must provide financial planning services in the best interests of their clients.

CFP® professionals who fail to comply with the above standards and requirements may be subject to CFP Board's enforcement process, which could result in suspension or permanent revocation of their CFP® certification.

FINRA Series 65 - Uniform Investment Adviser Law Examination

### Item 3: Disciplinary Information

No management person at Sweetgrass Financial Planning, LLC has ever been involved in an arbitration claim of any kind or been found liable in a civil, self-regulatory organization, or administrative proceeding.

### Item 4: Other Business Activities

Daniel Patterson is not involved with outside business activities.

### Item 5: Additional Compensation

Daniel Patterson does not receive any economic benefit from any person, company, or organization, in exchange for providing clients advisory services through SFP.

### Item 6: Supervision

No individual currently supervises Daniel Patterson's work as he is the sole employee of the firm as well as Chief Compliance Officer.

# Item 7: Requirements for State Registered Advisers

Daniel Patterson has NOT been involved in an arbitration, civil proceeding, self-regulatory proceeding, administrative proceeding, or a bankruptcy petition.