

FINAL EVENT DETAILS: ChooseFI Puget Sound Meetup!

Come join us for the first ChooseFI Puget Sound meetup on May 31!

TL;DR:

Event: ChooseFI Meetup with free, crowd-sourced presentations & discussions, and social time

Date/Time: Saturday 5/31/25, 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM (followed by happy hour until 7:00 PM)

Location: Columbia Branch Library: 4721 Rainier Ave S, Seattle, WA 98118

Who can attend: Anyone from around the Puget Sound region who is interested in FI*

Food: bring your own lunch, or shop at the PCC across the street! Feel free to contribute light snacks for the group!

Cost: free, but feel free to bring something "FI-themed" for the "Swap Meet" table

**This is a family-friendly event and kids are encouraged to attend. For those not particularly interested in FI, there will be a separate (kids) activity table, and the event space opens up to a park.*

IMMEDIATE ACTION TO TAKE: PRE-REGISTER FOR THE EVENT BY 5/24/25

The event space is limited, so please take a moment to **pre-register by 5/24/25** so we can get an idea of how many attendees to expect. (Day-of walk-ins allowed, space permitting)

Note: We will also be collecting contact information (optional) to aid in communication for future events.

Pre-register here: <https://forms.gle/bTrAjar5qzEwLVts7>

*** TRAFFIC ALERT ***

Honk! Fest West (<https://honkfestwest.org/>) will be taking place in the neighborhood on the same day as our event from 12:00pm-8:00pm. This means additional traffic in the area, including reduced availability of parking. For the least amount of disruption, plan to show up for the AM session of our event (beginning at 10:00am). For those who may be sensitive to noise, Honk! Fest is a community music festival, so there is potential to have periods of loud music/disruptions.

EVENT DETAILS

While individual local groups exist throughout the region, this will be an opportunity for ALL of us to gather at once. Not only will there be technical content, but perhaps more importantly the goal is to help foster social connections across our local FI communities.

The plan is to have a mix of presentations in the morning, while the afternoon will involve more attendee participation (smaller group breakout sessions). Feel free to attend only what piques your interest, or stay for the entire day.

Agenda

10:00-10:30 – Doors open
10:30-12:00 –Welcome & presentations
12:00-1:00 – Lunch/Social time/Icebreaker
1:00-3:15 – Breakout Sessions
3:15-3:30 – Closing ceremonies
3:30-5:00 – Social time at library
5:00-7:00 – Happy Hour at Fremont Brewing

No food or drink will be provided during the event by the organizers, but there is a PCC Community Market next door and coffee/restaurants are within walking distance. However, if you're inclined, we do encourage everyone to bring light snacks for sharing such as cookies, baked goods, etc.

For those interested in participating, there will be a "Swap Meet" table for sharing all things FI-related: pre-read books to pass along to others, stickers associated with personal blogs or podcasts, any FI trinkets (such as buttons, friendship bracelets, crocheted items, etc).

Happy Hour at Fremont Brewing Company, Columbia City Urban Beer Garden (3-minute walk from the library). 3808 S Edmunds St #1730, Seattle, WA 98118.

Presentation topics (still subject to change)

- Preparing mentally for the transition to FI
- Semi-retirement without fear
- Taxes (for W-2 employees & small business owners)
- Writing a book & getting it published

Breakout Sessions/Small Group topics (still subject to change)

- ACA/Healthcare
- Coast FI
- College planning
- Decluttering strategies
- FI books/resources
- Investing case for Bitcoin
- Monthly spending goals
- Post-FI finance/investing topics
- Psychology of money/Risk management
- Real estate investing
- SeniorFI - strategies for attaining FI after 60
- Small business ownership
- Travel & travel hacking

~~Save the Date: First ChooseFI Puget Sound Meetup!~~

~~Come join us for the first ChooseFI Puget Sound meetup on May 31!~~

~~TL;DR:~~

~~Event: ChooseFI Meetup with free, crowd-sourced technical content presentations and discussions, and social time (volunteer to present or lead a discussion below!*)~~

~~Date/Time: Saturday 5/31/25, 10:30 AM—5:30 PM~~

~~Location: Columbia Branch Library: 4721 Rainier Ave S, Seattle, WA 98118~~

~~Who can attend: Anyone from around the Puget Sound region who is interested in FI**~~

~~Food: bring your own lunch, or shop at the PCC across the street! Feel free to contribute light snacks for the group!~~

~~Cost: free, but feel free to bring something “FI themed” for the “Swap Meet” table~~

~~IMMEDIATE ACTIONS TO TAKE:~~

- ~~1. **Save the Date**—add this event to your calendar! (A registration survey will be sent at a future date!)~~
- ~~2. *Are you interested (or know someone who might be) in **serving as a volunteer presenter** and/or **small group facilitator**? Click here to **sign up** (presenters **by 4/19/25**; breakout session leads **by 5/10/25**): <https://forms.gle/fBz4MTps5nDW9gKf9>!~~

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~~While individual local groups exist throughout the region, this will be an opportunity for ALL of us to gather at once. Not only will there be technical content, but perhaps more importantly the goal is to help foster social connections across the local FI communities.~~

~~The plan is to have a mix of presentations in the morning and early afternoon, while the later afternoon will involve more attendee participation (smaller group breakout sessions). Feel free to attend only what piques your interest, or stay for the entire day.~~

~~Tentative Agenda~~

~~10:00-10:30—Doors Open~~

~~10:30-12:00—Presentations***~~

~~12:00-1:00—Lunch/Social time~~

~~1:00-1:45—Ice Breaker (People Bingo) & Social Time~~

~~1:45-2:30—Breakout Session 1***~~

~~2:30-3:00—Debrief/Break~~

~~3:00-3:45—Breakout Session 2***~~

~~3:45-4:15—Debrief/Break~~

~~4:15-5:30—Social time (optional Happy Hour or Dinner together!)~~

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~~CALL FOR VOLUNTEER PRESENTERS AND SMALL GROUP FACILITATORS~~

~~Following the true spirit of ChooseFI, we'd like to make this a truly crowd-sourced event. We're looking for volunteers who are interested in giving a short presentation (10-15 minutes), leading a small group breakout discussion, or both. We are open to any topic as long as it's strictly related to personal finance/FI and would benefit our community (i.e. no religious topics, no politics, no professional sales pitches, etc.). Follow this link to volunteer to present/lead a discussion: <https://forms.gle/fBz4MTps5nDW9qKf9>. For any other questions, reach out directly to Chris Young or Britt Sylvester.~~

~~**Note to: Presenters: please submit your interest by 4/19/25. Breakout Session Leaders/Facilitators please submit your interest by 5/10/25.**~~

~~*TOPICS—Potential presentation/discussion topics (based on initial attendee poll):~~**

- ~~• transitioning to post-FI life;~~
- ~~• various Post-FI topics : Investments (public & private); decumulation strategies; health insurance; passion projects; sports/hobbies (pickleball, golf); desired retirement locations);~~
- ~~• how retirees are accessing funds under 59;~~
- ~~• tips for building community with local FI groups;~~
- ~~• ways to live your best life not just focused on money (health, exercise, travel, house/home, friends, community);~~
- ~~• tax planning (recommendations for programs or tax advisors);~~
- ~~• participants at different stages of FIRE sharing their experiences;~~
- ~~• college planning~~
- ~~• tax optimization—~~
- ~~• Christin Boyd—volunteered to do a presentation on Psychology of Money/Risk Management—how to think about and process your financial concerns—~~
- ~~• Success stories: how did you get your partner(s) engaged and excited about FIRE~~
- ~~• Travel hacking~~
- ~~• Tips for saving money - 1% better - e.g. Racketin, Mint Mobile, how to lower cost: insurance, internet, insurance~~
- ~~• Request/recommendation for Judy to do book club talk, e.g. books that have been impactful in one's FI journey~~
- ~~• 501(c)3 vs. non-profit~~