

Finance and Investment Committee Report to the Full CKCF Board

Recommendation for Investment Management Partner Selection

Over the past **24 months**, the Finance and Investment Committee has engaged in a deliberate, informed, and collaborative process to review and refine CKCF's investment strategy and oversight. The decision before the board today represents not only extensive analysis, but also a renewed commitment to our fiduciary responsibility: to act in the best interest of CKCF's donors and long-term financial goals.

Origins of the Process and Policy Revision

- This journey began with a focused effort by the committee to better understand how CKCF's funds were being invested and managed.
- Special attention was placed on the **surplus and deficits within our endowment funds**, driving a deeper appreciation for the intricacies of fund management.
- At the start of 2024, the committee revised CKCF's investment policy, creating **three new investment pools** to allow a more balanced approach to risk and return.
- This was a purposeful step toward evaluating whether CKCF had been **overly conservative** in its strategic direction to Graystone.
- Throughout the year, we monitored the impact of these changes while continuing to deepen our knowledge of performance metrics and opportunities to enhance returns.

RFI Process and Investment Firm Review

Recognizing the need for broader perspective, the committee launched a **Request for Information (RFI)** at the close of 2024.

- Received proposals from **10 firms after launching initial RFI Mid-March 2025**, that led to **Round II at the end of April** inviting **5 second-round candidates**, and then selected **3 finalists** for interviews on **July 8 and 10, 2025**.
- Explored diverse strategies, including a serious review of **pure index approaches** as part of a comprehensive due diligence process.
- Engaged in **extended committee meetings** and discussions with finalists, including Zoom sessions and detailed email correspondence to ensure each firm's understanding of our expectations.
- Used an **unconventional approach in information gathering**, which surfaced additional insights that proved valuable in our assessment.
- Sought a true **partner - a firm** with a deep understanding of CKCF's mission, structure, and ambition for future growth.
- All finalists presented **strong service elements** and demonstrated unique value.
- **Clear expectation:** transition to new firm will bring noticeable improvements in average annual investment returns and organizational consultancy benefits.

Mason Investment Advisory Services: Recommendation and Rationale

After careful deliberation, the Committee reached a **unanimous consensus** in the selection of **Mason** as the primary investment manager for CKCF.

- Mason's core methodology features a **Sustainable Withdrawal Analysis**—a sophisticated statistical model integrating investment performance variables with specific investment policy criteria.

- Their understanding of nonprofit endowment management and tailored advisory services distinguished them from other finalists.
- Mason demonstrated not only competence but alignment with CKCF's goals and values.
- **See additional details regarding Mason at end of this recommendation. ***

Final Recommendation:

The Finance and Investment Committee respectfully recommends that the CKCF Board **approve Mason** as our new investment management partner. We firmly believe this decision reflects CKCF's dedication to transparent governance, long-term growth, and responsible stewardship of donor resources.

We welcome board discussion and are ready to move forward with implementation upon approval.

Mason Investment Advisory Services*

Background

- Founded in 1982 as a financial planning and investment firm for private clients. Created an institutional division in the late 1990's after adding a community foundation as the first client.
- Based in Reston, Virginia (outside of D.C.).
- Total Assets Under Management – \$13.3 Billion, of which \$4 Billion is community foundation-related.
- Manages investments for 50 community foundations nationwide, including the Hutchinson and Topeka community foundations in Kansas
- Annual exhibitor at the Annual Conference for Growing Community Foundations, hosted each year in Wichita by the Kansas Association of Community Foundations.

Investment Approach

- Strategic long-term asset allocation with minimal tactical or discretionary intervention. Generally, a mix of 50% passive index and 50% active manager investments.
- Sustainable Withdrawal Analysis – a proprietary customizable tool designed to help institutions optimize their asset allocation and spending policies given their growth and payout objectives. The model draws on long-term historical monthly data stretching back to 1926 and evaluates fund surplus/(deficit) balance probabilities on both an inflation-adjusted and nominal basis.
- Disciplined processes with deliberate changes to a process or investment vehicle only after a potential modification is proven to provide a statistical advantage over multiple market cycles.

Client Services

- Primary contact: Greg Druehl, Senior Managing Director and Senior Investment Consultant covering Colorado, Kansas, and Texas.
- Assurance of availability and in-person representation, even though no in-state office. The Mason service model is predicated upon nationwide clientele spread across 45 states.
- Mason provides a range of philanthropic advisory services in addition to their investment advisory services, including:
 - education and training for the board, committee, staff, current/prospective donors, and local professional advisors (which may include Continuing Education credits),
 - presentations for donors and agency funds,
 - co-branded educational and marketing materials,
 - community participation through event, speaker, and project sponsorships.



MASON
INVESTMENT ADVISORY
SERVICES, INC.

Institutional Investment Consulting

for Endowments, Foundations, Defined
Benefit Plans and Other Institutional Portfolios



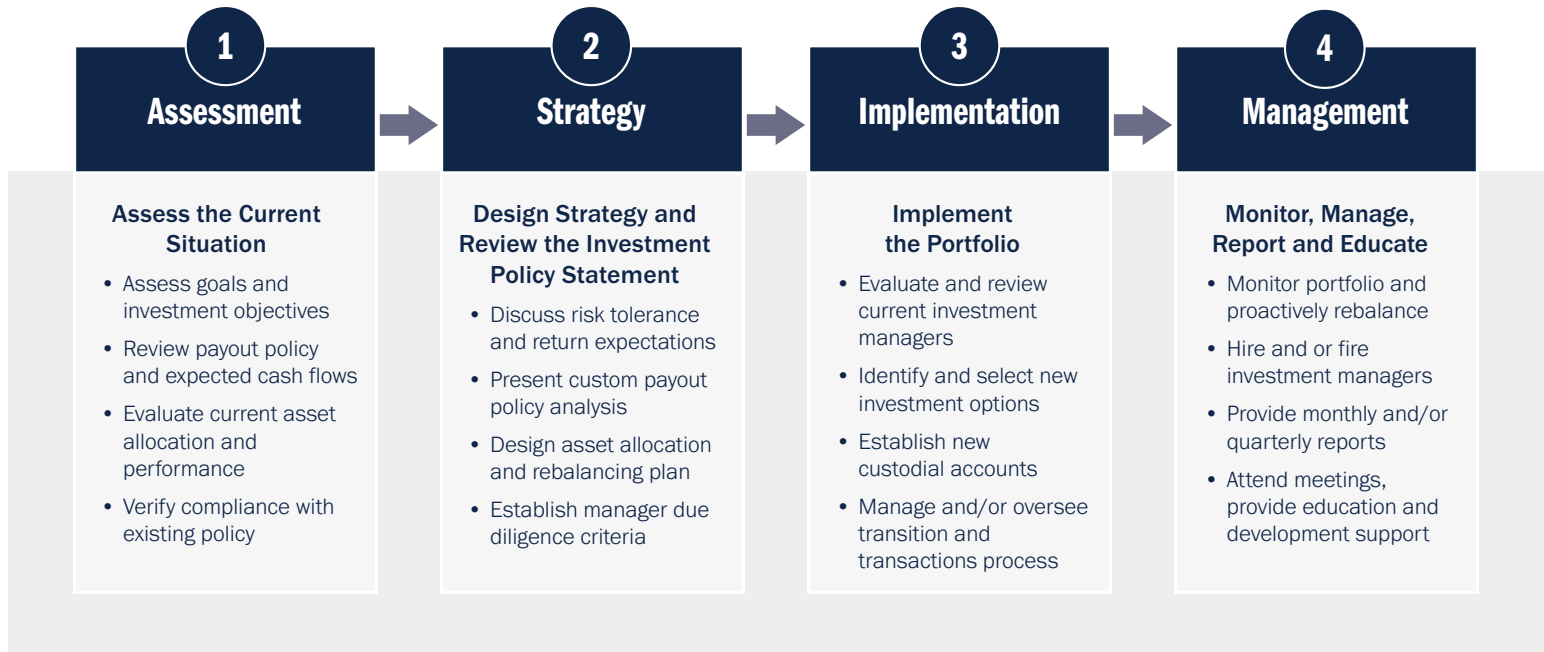
**Comprehensive Investment Consulting
Including Non-Discretionary and
Outsourced Chief Investment Officer
(OCIO) Services**



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Methodology

Mason's Institutional Investment Consulting service provides institutional investors with comprehensive discretionary or non-discretionary investment management and consulting. There are four equally important steps to our process:



1. Assessment

Whether your institution's portfolio is new or established, it has unique characteristics that we need to understand in order to provide appropriate advice. We explore your investment goals and objectives, as well as expected cash flows, governing principles, growth expectations and spending requirements.

2. Strategy

One of the primary fiduciary duties for finance and investment committees is to implement and monitor their organization's Investment Policy Statement (IPS.) At the beginning of each new institutional client relationship, our responsibility as advisors is to get to know the client. The best way for us to do so is to review and analyze the existing IPS. In our first meeting with a new client, we discuss topics including but not limited to the client's goals, investment objectives, tolerance for risk, spending and payout needs, asset allocation, rebalancing and manager due diligence criteria.

3. Implementation

Our implementation plan will include managers and funds that we believe carefully match each recommended asset class and that pass our strict due diligence requirements for consistency of performance and style, as well as for cost effectiveness. Please note that we only recommend third-party

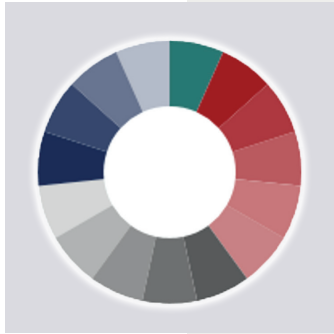
managers and funds and we do not offer or promote any proprietary products. Our service also includes operational support and assistance with new custodial account set-up and transactions management.

4. Management

Once implementation is completed, we continually monitor the asset allocation parameters, managers and funds and the clients' overall performance. For our OCIO (discretionary) clients, we proactively rebalance their portfolios and hire/fire managers and funds per the IPS due diligence criteria. On an ongoing basis, we provide a suite of reports and meet in-person with our clients' committees to review the reports and to provide education.

"As fiduciaries, we are committed to objectivity, which keeps our focus exactly where it should be—on you."

— Scott S. George
Co-Chief Executive Officer,
Co-Chief Investment Officer, and President,
Mason Investment Advisory Services, Inc.



Asset Allocation

Reducing Risk Through Diversification

The objective of diversification is to assemble a portfolio of investments that perform differently in response to different economic circumstances. Through diversification, investors attempt to reduce the volatility of a portfolio as circumstances change from economic prosperity to recession and back again or, in another example, from low inflation (and perhaps deflation) to high inflation.

Because many of these situations cannot be predicted and become clear only in retrospect, we classify investment assets into broad asset categories, with each broad category having important subcategory targets. We believe this to be an effective strategy for multiple types of institutional investors in multiple types of economic environments.

With proper asset allocation, a portfolio holds asset classes with low correlation (movements in the opposite direction, at the same time or not at the same magnitude). For example, low inflation or deflation has a very positive influence on bonds but usually a negative influence on real estate and energy. Inflation usually creates the opposite effect. Economic prosperity has a positive influence on stocks, but if that prosperity results in inflation, there is usually a negative impact on bonds. Mason's approach to asset allocation is to create high-performing, low volatility portfolios that we believe will provide our clients with the results they expect.

Implementation

Selecting the Managers Who Fit the Objectives

For an asset allocation strategy to be effective, professional guidance in the implementation phase is crucial. Unless each asset class is represented accurately by using investment managers who best represent the class objective, the results may be much different than anticipated, particularly during times of adversity or crisis.

To identify investment fund managers who fit your implementation objectives, we use a rigorous in-house research process that includes both analysis of fund family and individual fund performance. We conduct both quantitative and qualitative reviews of managers.



Portfolio Monitoring and Rebalancing

Assuring Your Portfolio Reflects Your Objectives

After your portfolio is implemented, we will continually monitor it, reviewing each investment manager's performance against our strict set of analytical criteria to look for timely indications of when an investment manager should be evaluated for possible replacement. In addition, we regularly review your actual portfolio allocation against your recommended targets to identify opportunities for rebalancing, which helps to reinforce the discipline of buying low and selling high.

We communicate frequently and provide detailed, comprehensive quarterly investment performance reports and additional monthly reports to enable you to track your organization's portfolio results. In addition, you will receive monthly brokerage account statements from your custodian. Throughout the process, you will have a dedicated Mason Senior Investment Consultant to meet with on a regular basis, backed by a team of analysts and operational specialists.

Our goal: To ensure your organization receives the attention and responsiveness you expect—and the peace of mind you, your committee, and your board deserve.



Why Choose Mason?

- **Independent and Objective**
Offer no proprietary products, mutual funds or investment managers
- **Track Record of Investment Performance**
Have documented results for clients with globally diversified portfolios
- **Long-Term, Strategic Perspective**
Employ time-tested principles in our investment approach
- **Data Aggregation and Reporting**
Provide multi-advisor data aggregation and performance reporting
- **Donor Development Support**
Assist with donor development and organizational fundraising

About Mason

Mason Investment Advisory Services, Inc. (Mason), an investment advisor registered with the SEC, is a privately owned firm with a national scope. Our Institutional Investment Consulting group provides non-discretionary (traditional) consulting, outsourced chief investment officer services (OCIO), data aggregation and reporting and consulting services to multiple types of institutions. Mason also provides financial planning and investment management to wealthy individuals. Mason's Institutional Investment Consulting group serves many types of clients including community foundations, educational institutions, healthcare entities, arts and cultural organizations, private and family foundations, corporate foundations, social service entities, public funds, and retirement plans. Mason manages short-term, intermediate-term and long-term portfolios as well as operating funds, reserve funds and defined benefit plans.



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D Portfolio Trailing Returns

	YTD	1-Year	3-Year Annualized			5-Year Annualized			7-Year Annualized			10-Year Annualized			15-Year Annualized			20-Year Annualized		
	Return	Return	Return	Std. Dev. ⁴	Sharpe Ratio ⁵	Return	Std. Dev. ⁴	Sharpe Ratio ⁵	Return	Std. Dev. ⁴	Sharpe Ratio ⁵	Return	Std. Dev. ⁴	Sharpe Ratio ⁵	Return	Std. Dev. ⁴	Sharpe Ratio ⁵	Return	Std. Dev. ⁴	Sharpe Ratio ⁵
Performance as of 8/31/2025																				
MIAS Growth (D) ¹	10.90%	9.81%	11.67%	12.93%	0.53	10.36%	13.61%	0.56	7.96%	15.05%	0.40	8.69%	13.25%	0.53	8.84%	12.32%	0.63	7.16%	12.87%	0.47
Equity Biased Growth Reference Point ²	9.14%	9.83%	12.34%	11.91%	0.63	9.05%	12.56%	0.50	7.57%	14.01%	0.40	8.10%	12.37%	0.52	8.56%	11.77%	0.64	6.56%	12.73%	0.43
Growth Reference Point ²	8.55%	9.34%	10.73%	9.87%	0.61	7.57%	10.51%	0.47	7.07%	11.36%	0.42	7.33%	10.02%	0.55	7.73%	9.41%	0.69	6.07%	10.20%	0.46
Institutional Client Custom D Portfolio Blend ²	11.09%	9.67%	10.84%	12.83%	0.50	9.27%	13.28%	0.48	7.11%	14.77%	0.33	7.64%	12.94%	0.46	7.85%	12.16%	0.56	6.13%	12.96%	0.38
77/23 Domestic Stock/Bond ³	8.90%	12.13%	14.30%	12.84%	0.75	10.06%	13.55%	0.57	10.06%	14.40%	0.55	10.63%	12.66%	0.70	11.12%	11.63%	0.85	8.37%	12.23%	0.58
77/23 Global Stock/Bond ³	11.99%	11.50%	12.38%	11.88%	0.64	7.15%	12.41%	0.37	6.98%	13.03%	0.38	7.51%	11.57%	0.50	7.32%	11.15%	0.56	6.17%	12.16%	0.41
Domestic Stocks ³	10.63%	15.85%	18.80%	15.33%	0.89	14.31%	16.39%	0.71	13.37%	17.91%	0.64	14.19%	15.83%	0.79	14.74%	14.70%	0.92	10.72%	15.54%	0.63
Global Stocks ³	14.74%	16.15%	17.50%	14.23%	0.87	12.14%	15.22%	0.63	10.67%	16.70%	0.53	11.24%	14.92%	0.65	10.94%	14.49%	0.69	8.64%	16.00%	0.49
Domestic Bonds ³	4.99%	3.14%	3.02%	6.98%	-0.24	-0.68%	6.35%	-0.57	1.81%	5.79%	-0.13	1.80%	5.04%	-0.05	2.19%	4.41%	0.19	3.12%	4.25%	0.34
Global Bonds ³	7.21%	3.47%	3.39%	8.29%	-0.15	-1.76%	7.80%	-0.60	0.57%	7.07%	-0.27	1.13%	6.48%	-0.12	1.15%	5.89%	-0.02	2.30%	6.08%	0.12

Past performance is not indicative of future results. NOTE: Please see important disclosures regarding the Composite, Reference Points, Custom Portfolio Blend, and Stock/Bond Blends at the end of this presentation.

- ¹ MIAS Growth (D) Composite Returns are net of investment fees, including the expense ratios of underlying funds and fees charged by MIAS.
- ² Peer Group Morningstar Growth Allocation Funds, Equity Biased Funds, and the Institutional Client Custom D Portfolio Blend are shown net of the expense ratios of the underlying funds used. Where indices have been used as a proxy, the net of the average expense ratio of their respective Morningstar Category averages has been applied. Performance has not been adjusted for fees charged by MIAS. Performance would have been lower if adjusted for MIAS fees.
- ³ 77/23 stock/bond blends are comprised of the S&P Global BMI for global stocks, and the Bloomberg Global Aggregate TR USD for global bonds. In addition, the blends are net of the average expense ratio of all ETFs and Index funds in the Morningstar database updated annually. Performance has not been adjusted for fees charged by MIAS. Performance would have been lower if adjusted for MIAS fees.
- ⁴ Standard deviation is the statistical measurement of dispersion about an average, which depicts how widely a portfolio's returns varied over the stated period of time.
- ⁵ Sharpe Ratio is calculated by subtracting the risk-free rate, BofAML US Treasury Bill 3 Month TR, from the rate of return for the portfolio and dividing the result by the standard deviation of the portfolio returns.

D Portfolio Annual Returns

Calendar Year Performance	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000
MIAS Growth (D) ¹	9.01%	14.92%	-12.34%	19.95%	9.94%	21.16%	-8.44%	15.94%	11.13%	-3.33%	4.16%	20.08%	13.70%	-1.90%	14.19%	30.08%	-29.98%	6.47%	12.88%	8.61%	13.98%	24.88%	-8.19%	-4.18%	2.59%
Equity Biased Growth Reference Point ²	12.91%	15.18%	-15.31%	16.56%	10.76%	21.08%	-7.59%	16.31%	7.47%	-2.72%	5.61%	20.90%	13.15%	-3.34%	13.44%	29.28%	-34.32%	7.33%	13.09%	7.37%	10.97%	24.94%	-14.50%	-9.93%	-1.91%
Growth Reference Point ²	11.27%	13.36%	-14.01%	13.87%	10.82%	18.90%	-5.86%	13.22%	7.36%	-2.20%	5.83%	16.13%	11.84%	-0.39%	11.73%	24.05%	-28.20%	5.89%	11.29%	5.24%	8.53%	19.71%	-11.53%	-4.63%	1.58%
Institutional Client Custom D Portfolio Blend ²	8.05%	13.72%	-13.15%	14.69%	9.97%	19.37%	-8.38%	13.86%	8.46%	-3.78%	2.86%	16.74%	12.22%	-3.43%	14.04%	26.39%	-31.41%	5.04%	12.48%	8.23%	13.06%	25.22%	-10.03%	-6.28%	2.55%
77/23 Domestic Stock/Bond ³	17.42%	20.30%	-18.05%	18.84%	17.46%	24.86%	-4.55%	15.92%	10.21%	0.12%	10.44%	23.34%	12.56%	2.01%	14.23%	22.39%	-29.39%	5.30%	12.30%	4.80%	9.86%	24.08%	-14.76%	-7.07%	-6.56%
77/23 Global Stock/Bond ³	11.47%	17.22%	-18.24%	11.76%	14.69%	21.18%	-8.30%	19.64%	6.66%	-2.46%	2.83%	16.70%	13.43%	-5.30%	12.32%	29.52%	-33.87%	10.71%	17.37%	7.74%	14.63%	30.36%	-11.31%	-11.47%	-6.81%
Domestic Stocks ³	23.76%	26.14%	-19.04%	26.70%	20.82%	31.02%	-5.27%	20.99%	13.37%	0.67%	12.71%	33.06%	16.06%	0.98%	17.16%	28.30%	-37.23%	5.62%	15.77%	6.38%	12.48%	31.64%	-20.86%	-10.97%	-10.89%
Global Stocks ³	16.75%	21.92%	-18.24%	18.18%	16.78%	26.76%	-9.67%	24.69%	8.84%	-1.58%	4.36%	24.12%	17.15%	-7.72%	15.11%	37.76%	-42.41%	11.94%	21.75%	12.56%	17.28%	37.14%	-18.01%	-14.67%	-8.97%
Domestic Bonds ³	1.25%	5.53%	-13.01%	-1.54%	7.51%	8.72%	0.01%	3.54%	2.65%	0.55%	5.97%	-2.02%	4.21%	7.84%	6.54%	5.93%	5.24%	6.96%	4.33%	2.43%	4.34%	4.10%	10.26%	8.44%	11.63%
Global Bonds ³	-1.69%	5.72%	-16.25%	-4.71%	9.20%	6.84%	-1.20%	7.39%	2.09%	-3.15%	0.59%	-2.60%	4.32%	5.64%	5.54%	6.93%	4.79%	9.48%	6.64%	-4.49%	9.27%	12.51%	16.52%	1.57%	3.17%

Past performance is not indicative of future results. NOTE: Please see important disclosures regarding the Composite, Reference Points, Custom Portfolio Blend, and Stock/Bond Blends at the end of this presentation.

¹ MIAS Growth (D) Composite Returns are net of investment fees, including the expense ratios of underlying funds and fees charged by MIAS.

² Peer Group Morningstar Growth Allocation Funds, Equity Biased Funds, and the Institutional Client Custom D Portfolio Blend are shown net of the expense ratios of the underlying funds used. Where indices have been used as a proxy, the net of the average expense ratio of their respective Morningstar Category averages has been applied. Performance has not been adjusted for fees charged by MIAS. Performance would have been lower if adjusted for MIAS fees.

³ 77/23 stock/bond blends are comprised of the S&P Global BMI for global stocks, and the Bloomberg Global Aggregate TR USD for global bonds. In addition, the blends are net of the average expense ratio of all ETFs and Index funds in the Morningstar database updated annually. Performance has not been adjusted for fees charged by MIAS. Performance would have been lower if adjusted for MIAS fees.

Performance Comparisons – Peer Group Reference Points

The performance of Peer Group Reference Points is presented net of the average annual ETF and Index Fund expense ratio prorated monthly. This was the average expense ratio of all the ETF's and Index Funds included in Morningstar database.

Expense Ratio Period	Number of ETFs/Index Funds	Average Expense Ratio
12/01/15 through present	3,200	0.73%
10/01/12 through 11/30/15	2,438	0.68%
07/01/11 through 09/30/12	2,224	0.72% (calculation date 06/30/11)
Through 06/30/11	1,925	0.78%
Through 06/30/10	1,523	0.70%

Performance Comparisons – Index Mixes

The performance of Index Blends is presented net of the average annual ETF and Index Fund expense ratio prorated monthly. This was the average expense ratio of all the ETF's and Index Funds included in Morningstar database.

Expense Ratio Period	Number of ETFs/Index Funds	Average Expense Ratio
12/01/15 through present	3,200	0.73%
10/01/12 through 11/30/15	2,438	0.68%
07/01/11 through 09/30/12	2,224	0.72% (calculation date 06/30/11)
Through 06/30/11	1,925	0.78%
Through 06/30/10	1,523	0.70%



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