



### Leaning into the Prudential Mission by Activating Brand Purpose in a Time of Crisis

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# Prudential Financial Retirement's Mission

Helping American's Retire with Dignity



### Traditional Approach to Retirement Planning

# Retirement Challenges

- National Financial Retirement Crisis
- Definition of Retirement has Changed
- Lack of Knowledge Leading to Lack of Action



# Retirement Planning

- Promote Positive Savings Behaviors
- Take a Holistic Perspective
- Look at Total Financial Wellness
- Start Early!

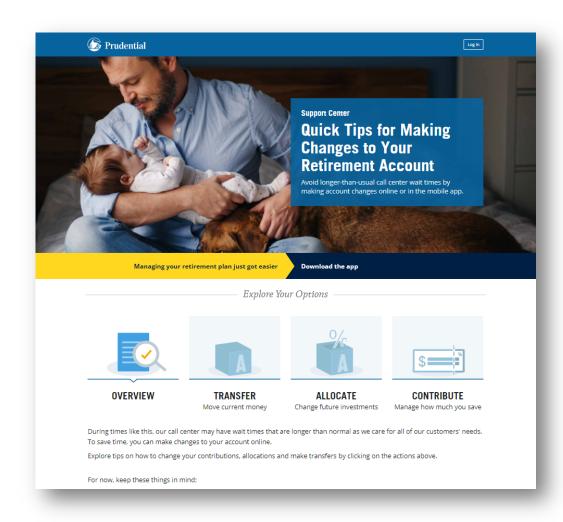
### **Pandemic Impact**

As the pandemic rolled across the county, Prudential's participants' lives were upended

- of workers 45 to 64 have lost their jobs or some of their income
- of Americans say it will take 6 months or more to financially recover
- 57% say they will need to dip into their long-term savings in a year or less
- **200K** Prudential participants took out Coronavirus-Related Distributions (CRDs).
- of Prudential Retirement distributions were CRDs.
- **516K** is the average Prudential participant distribution amount (April October).

## Pandemic Impact Enabled Prudential to Lean into Their Mission

- Retirement accounts were the biggest accumulation of wealth for many individuals
- Accessing that wealth through careful assessment, to minimize long-term negative financial impact, became a priority
- Prudential Retirement needed to enable Advisors, Plan Sponsors and Participants with tools and information as quickly as possible



# How Prudential Retirement Leaned into the Mission Quickly to Meet Immediate Needs

### Cause and Effect



Market volatility is not new, but March 2020 was different – it came with a pandemic



Retirement plan participants flooded the Call Center trying to withdraw money, move allocations, or just talk to someone





Leadership recognized the severity of the situation and formed a cross-functional SWAT team to address the situation



Priorities shifted and business as usual wasn't usual

- Technology investments and enhanced services became priorities
- Accelerated roll out of new technological capabilities
- New websites with key market volatility and CARES Act information were stood up in days versus months
- Digital properties were propelled into the spotlight as the go-to destinations for support



Retirement Strategic Marketing quickly pivoted, transforming programs and content to help Advisors, Plan Sponsors and Participants navigate market volatility, new legislation and the uncertainty

### Technology + Services

- Prudential started with BrandMuscle in 2019
- BrandMuscle enables Prudential to host brand compliant marketing materials that can be personalized for local use
- BrandMuscle develops flexible templates that enable quick customizations and variations that meet brand and legal compliance requirements

200+ Customizable templates

Campaign kits available with 7 vehicles in each campaign

450+ Users

### Leveraging Partnership to Quickly Scale

- Spring 2020, BrandMuscle helped Prudential ramp up their Marketing Volatility Campaign and Financial Wellness Services Campaigns
- In two months, 130 templates were created to aid in the distribution of emails, flyers and other marketing materials
- Goal: Provide financial solutions and information to Prudential participants when they need it most, helping them stay on track financially despite market volatility



### 3,488 hours

were saved in internal resources by leveraging technology and BrandMuscle services



Kept internal resources focused on strategic execution



Allowed limitless versioning and personalization for local needs without additional resources



Provided flexibility to local Advisors to be relevant for individual participants

### Focus on Relevancy and Accessibility

Along with the development and deployment of new marketing resources, Prudential focused on ways to be relevant and accessible in new ways

In-Person Meetings Not Possible Retirement counselors unable to meet with participants based on local situations

Virtual Consultations

Appointments application and web-meeting capabilities

Recognition of Different Situations

Participants experiencing the pandemic differently

Personalized Assets & Journeys
New customizable assets and email journeys
introduced

Call Center Overload

Participants needing support and information

Self-Service Promotions

General content and/or plan specific customizable assets directing participants online to self-serve

### **User Feedback**

"Building and deploying customized materials for my clients used to take me 6-8 weeks. Now it only takes me one day. My clients are impressed and thrilled!"

"The variable content and graphic options in each template are incredible. I can do everything on my own, allowing me to focus on more strategic work for my clients."







# Leaning Into the Mission

Helping American's Retire with Dignity

- Quickly identified participants needed help
- Empathized and saw an opportunity to help
- Developed tools and services to help them get back on track
- Leveraged partnerships and technology to move rapidly
- Looking forward in 2021 to develop ways to help participants get back on track and planning for their future

