

Nothing risked, nothing gained



The March survey asked members to describe a major risk they took — and how it improved their lives. Read on to learn about the joys and rewards our participants received!

- Venturing to another country to serve the “poorest of the poor” — one step then turned into 10 years of my life!
- Ending a long term relationship that had deteriorated. Once I was out of it I realized how bad it had actually gotten and how much happier I am without it.
- I had just retired, heard of an opportunity, interviewed, was offered a job. Now I have a great job, learning new skills, making new friends. I stepped out of my comfort zone and improved my life.
- I asked my ex-wife to re-marry me (after nearly 30 years apart — having both had children by other marriages), and we have been blissfully married for almost 13 years!
- Removing myself from a very dysfunctional marriage..... from darkness into light; from light into life.
- I decided to attend a four year school and major in electrical engineering. I was the first in my family to go to college and the first to graduate. This set me on a course to earn more during my life.
- I left a stable job to work for an internet start-up that included a very significant raise. Once the stock options turned into stock, I vested then cashed out immediately. The cash allowed me to purchase a new home. No more renting!
- I went back to school in my late 20's and completely changed my career path.
- I was working in a position where I was earning a big salary. The job was not fulfilling me. I changed positions to a lower paying salary for more job fulfillment. My co-workers in the original position said I was crazy to take a pay cut (\$11,000 per year), but the money was not worth the dissatisfaction.
- I took a chance to make a complete career change outside my previous area of expertise. I was very unhappy at my old job so I thought the risk was well worth it. I sold my house, moved across the country, bought a new house and started a new job. All in 2 months.
- It is difficult to think of changing jobs, leaving friends behind, moving to a new area. I took a risk of changing jobs after 3 years at my old one and it made a huge difference. Better pay, new friends and new responsibilities are just some of the benefits I gained. If you are “in a rut” or just needing a change — give it a try. You might be better off that you think!
- I moved from my hometown to a town where I knew no one and I have met some really good people.
- If I had not faced the risk of pregnancy and childbirth, then I may not have been diagnosed with myasthenia gravis, a neuromuscular autoimmune disease that causes fluctuating muscle weakness that can effect breathing, swallowing, walking, etc., before it was too late. I had been suffering mysterious symptoms for 5+ years and was finally diagnosed at 16 weeks pregnant with my first child. He wasn't planned, but he saved my life.

- Five years ago I left a job with the company that I had worked with for eight years to work with another company. It was a secure job but very stressful and burning me out. For the first few months I really questioned my decision but once I took a chance and gave myself the opportunity to explore, it turned out to be a very good move for me. Sometimes you have to take risks in life to experience all of the benefits new endeavors can bring. It is also important to know when to leave a job and seek new adventures for your own mental health!
- Quit a job at which I had been for 10+ years and a company at which I had planned to stay until retirement. It had become so stressful at my workplace that it was affecting my personal life and my health, and I was miserable. I gave 2 weeks' notice, then left, and within 2 weeks I found a new job...and a new career, and I never looked back. It was the best move I ever made!
- I moved away from the small town I grew up in. Leaving family and friends behind was really difficult, but the move opened new doors for personal and professional growth.
- I decided to go back to college at the age of 55. It has taken me 3 years to finish my Bachelor's Degree in Business with a minor in Human Resources. Not only did I finish my goal set years earlier but I am graduating in the top 10 of my class, summa cum laude. I also made the honor society and was inducted into Delta Mu Delta. I am really proud of my accomplishments, lots of hard work but the reward of completion and the honors were way more than I expected.

Thank you for all your responses.
We look forward to hearing from
you in our next survey!

