

# The Sage Story: Thirty Years of Purposeful Action

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## A Philosophy Rooted in Client Purpose

For nearly three decades, Sage Advisory Services has been guided by a clear belief: effective investment management begins with understanding what each client seeks to accomplish with its capital. Founder Robert G. Smith's experience in credit, insurance research, portfolio management, and institutional advisory work reinforced the view that investors require capital to serve multiple purposes, including income, liquidity, growth, liability matching, capital preservation, downside protection, and support for broader institutional missions. Sage was founded to identify those objectives with discipline and convert them into durable investment solutions.

When the firm was founded in Austin in 1996, its name reflected this purpose. Sage conveyed wisdom and sound judgment; Advisory reflected the responsibility inherent in guiding significant financial decisions; and Services represented a commitment to contributing to the welfare of others. Collectively, the name expressed a philosophy of purposeful action and servant leadership that continues to inform the firm's culture and client work.

## Building Solutions, Not Selling Products

From its inception, Sage has emphasized the development of client-specific solutions rather than the distribution of standardized products. The firm begins by assessing how each client's assets are intended to serve its institution, stakeholders, beneficiaries, or mission, and then constructs portfolios around those defined needs. Across pension plans, insurers, healthcare organizations, endowments, foundations, public funds, and private families, Sage has consistently framed investing as the alignment of capital with purpose.

## Innovation in Institutional Implementation

This client-centered orientation contributed to several of Sage's early implementation innovations. In the late 1990s, the firm became an early adopter of exchange-traded funds, recognizing that ETFs could provide institutional investors with enhanced transparency, liquidity, diversification, and implementation efficiency.

As client needs increased in complexity, Sage expanded its asset-liability management capabilities and developed proprietary tools to evaluate portfolios against real-world obligations rather than benchmarks alone. This approach produced a more practical measure of investment success: whether portfolios were positioned to help clients meet the outcomes most important to their institutions and constituents.

## Insurance Expertise and Risk-Aware Investing

Sage's long-standing engagement with the insurance industry has also served as a defining source of investment perspective. Decades of analysis involving insurer balance sheets, liability structures, and alternative risk-transfer markets reinforced the importance of diversification, disciplined risk management, and portfolio resilience. These insights have informed the firm's capabilities in liability-aware investing, fixed income, structured securities, and insurance-linked securities.

In support of these investment capabilities, Sage has continued to invest in industry-specific research, technology, compliance, and enterprise-wide governance. The firm regards operational excellence not as a back-office function, but as a core element of its fiduciary responsibility—supporting disciplined decision-making, transparent reporting, and durable client relationships.

## Responsible Investing and Stewardship

As client priorities have broadened, Sage has expanded its responsible investing, stewardship, and values-based investment capabilities. Many institutions increasingly seek portfolios that reflect both financial objectives and organizational values. Tools such as the Sage Leaf Score® and expanded stewardship reporting demonstrate the firm's commitment to research, transparency, and client-specific implementation. For Sage, responsible investing is most effective when it aligns client capital with both mission and financial purpose.

## Expanding Capabilities for Evolving Client Needs

More recently, Sage has broadened its platform to include specialized alternative income and diversification strategies, including insurance-linked securities, and related credit opportunities. These capabilities build on the firm's experience in credit markets, insurance businesses, and risk-transfer mechanisms, while extending the same approach that has defined Sage since its founding: listening carefully to client needs and developing thoughtful solutions around them.

## A Continuing Commitment to Purposeful Action

Today, Sage manages more than \$30 billion for a diverse institutional and private client base. Nevertheless, the firm's defining story is not one of scale alone, but of stewardship, innovation, and purpose. Markets have changed, client needs have evolved, and Sage's capabilities have expanded. Yet the firm's mission remains consistent: to exercise wisdom and sound judgment, provide thoughtful advice, and help clients deploy capital in pursuit of the outcomes that matter most to them and to the communities they serve. Nearly thirty years later, that commitment to purposeful action continues to define Sage Advisory Services.

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*Sage Advisory Services, Ltd. Co. is a registered investment adviser that provides investment management services for a variety of institutions and high net worth individuals. For additional information on Sage and its investment management services, please view our website at [sageadvisory.com](http://sageadvisory.com), or refer to our Form ADV, which is available upon request by calling 512.327.5530.*

# La Historia de Sage: Treinta Años de Acción con Propósito

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## Una Filosofía Arraigada en el Propósito del Cliente

Durante casi tres décadas, Sage Advisory Services se ha guiado por una convicción clara: una gestión de inversiones eficaz comienza por comprender qué busca lograr cada cliente con su capital. La experiencia del fundador Robert G. Smith en crédito, investigación de seguros, gestión de portafolios y asesoría institucional reforzó la visión de que los inversionistas necesitan que el capital cumpla múltiples propósitos, entre ellos generar ingresos, proporcionar liquidez, impulsar el crecimiento, respaldar el calce de pasivos, preservar capital, ofrecer protección contra pérdidas y apoyar misiones institucionales más amplias. Sage fue fundada para identificar esos objetivos con disciplina y convertirlos en soluciones de inversión duraderas.

Cuando la firma fue fundada en Austin en 1996, su nombre reflejaba este propósito. En inglés, cada término del nombre evoca un valor: Sage transmitía sabiduría y buen juicio; Advisory reflejaba la responsabilidad inherente que conlleva orientar decisiones financieras importantes; y Services representaba el compromiso de contribuir al bienestar de los demás. En conjunto, el nombre expresaba una filosofía de acción con propósito y liderazgo de servicio que continúa guiando la cultura de la firma y su labor con los clientes.

## Enfocados en Soluciones, No en Vender Productos

Desde su fundación, Sage ha enfatizado el desarrollo de soluciones específicas para cada cliente, en lugar de la distribución de productos estandarizados. La firma comienza evaluando cómo los activos de cada cliente están destinados a servir a su institución, sus grupos de interés, beneficiarios o misión, y luego construye portafolios en torno a esas necesidades definidas. En planes de pensiones, aseguradoras, organizaciones de salud, fondos patrimoniales, fundaciones, fondos públicos y familias privadas, Sage ha enmarcado consistentemente la inversión como la alineación del capital con un propósito.

## Innovación en la Implementación Institucional

Esta orientación centrada en el cliente contribuyó a varias de las primeras innovaciones de Sage en materia de implementación. A finales de la década de 1990, la firma se convirtió en una de las primeras en adoptar los fondos cotizados en bolsa, al reconocer que los ETF podían brindar a los inversionistas institucionales mayor transparencia, liquidez, diversificación y eficiencia en la implementación.

A medida que las necesidades de los clientes aumentaron en complejidad, Sage amplió sus capacidades de gestión de activos y pasivos y desarrolló herramientas propias para evaluar portafolios frente a obligaciones del mundo real, y no solo frente a índices de referencia. Este enfoque generó una medida más práctica del éxito de la inversión: si los portafolios estaban posicionados para ayudar a los clientes a alcanzar los resultados más importantes para sus instituciones y las comunidades a las que sirven.

## Experiencia en Seguros e Inversión Consciente del Riesgo

La relación de larga trayectoria de Sage con la industria aseguradora también ha sido una fuente clave en la perspectiva de inversión. Décadas de análisis de balances de aseguradoras, estructuras de pasivos y mercados alternativos de transferencia de riesgo reforzaron la importancia de la diversificación, la gestión disciplinada del riesgo y la resiliencia de los portafolios. Estos conocimientos han informado las capacidades de la firma en inversión consciente de los pasivos, renta fija, valores estructurados y valores vinculados a seguros.

En apoyo de estas capacidades de inversión, Sage ha seguido invirtiendo en investigación especializada por industria, tecnología, cumplimiento normativo y gobernanza a nivel empresarial. La firma considera la excelencia operativa no como una función administrativa secundaria, sino como un elemento central de su responsabilidad fiduciaria, al respaldar una toma de decisiones disciplinada, reportes transparentes y relaciones duraderas con los clientes.

## Inversión Responsable y Administración Fiduciaria

A medida que las prioridades de los clientes se han ampliado, Sage ha expandido sus capacidades de inversión responsable, administración fiduciaria (stewardship) e inversión basada en valores. Cada vez más instituciones buscan portafolios que reflejen tanto objetivos financieros como valores organizacionales. Herramientas como Sage Leaf Score® y los reportes ampliados de administración fiduciaria demuestran el compromiso de la firma con la investigación, la transparencia y la implementación específica para cada cliente. Para Sage, la inversión responsable es más eficaz cuando alinea el capital del cliente tanto con su misión como con su propósito financiero.

## Ampliación de Capacidades para Necesidades Cambiantes de los Clientes

Más recientemente, Sage ha ampliado su plataforma para incluir estrategias especializadas de ingresos alternativos y diversificación, incluidos valores vinculados a seguros y oportunidades de crédito relacionadas. Estas capacidades se apoyan en la experiencia de la firma en mercados de crédito, negocios de seguros y mecanismos de transferencia de riesgo, al tiempo que extienden el mismo enfoque que ha definido a Sage desde su fundación: escuchar atentamente las necesidades de los clientes y desarrollar soluciones cuidadosas en torno a ellas.

## Un Compromiso Constante con la Acción con Propósito

Hoy, Sage gestiona más de 30 mil millones de dólares para una base diversa de clientes institucionales y privados. Sin embargo, la historia que define a la firma no es solo una historia de escala, sino de administración fiduciaria, innovación y propósito. Los mercados han cambiado, las necesidades de los clientes han evolucionado y las capacidades de Sage se han ampliado. Aun así, la misión de la firma se mantiene constante: ejercer sabiduría y buen juicio, brindar asesoría reflexiva y ayudar a los clientes a desplegar capital en busca de los resultados que más importan para ellos y para las comunidades a las que sirven. Casi treinta años después, ese compromiso con la acción con propósito continúa definiendo a Sage Advisory Services.

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