

## Strategy Overview

As of 12/31/24

Core Fixed Income is a long-term income generation strategy focused on capital preservation by managing principal risk. Core Fixed Income invests in a diversified basket of global ETFs across the income spectrum using U.S. bonds, global bonds, corporate bonds, mortgages and other asset classes. The portfolio seeks to produce long-term returns above the bond aggregate market.

**Primary Objective**  
Income Generation

**Asset Allocation**  
Fixed Income 100%

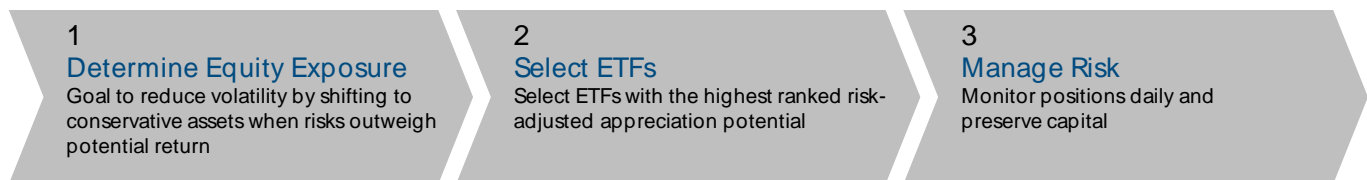
**Secondary Objective**  
Downside Risk  
Protection

## Active Management for a Changing Market

- People are living longer, and the road to financial security is only getting more complex. Investors require thoughtful solutions that properly balance the financial tradeoff between income production and principal risk.
- The rise of the Exchange Traded Fund (ETF) marketplace has provided NorthCoast with one of the tools necessary to deliver investment products designed to manage this tradeoff. Utilizing a variety of ETFs, NorthCoast can provide investors with increased transparency, lower costs, and greater consistency.
- Market exposure adjustments, rules-based ETF selection, and disciplined risk management are the key components to Core Fixed Income. Incorporating a hands-on tactical asset allocation solution can enhance diversification, lower volatility, and generate solid, long-term income.

## Investment Process

Focus on income generation while managing principal risk  
through the implementation of a systematic 3-step process



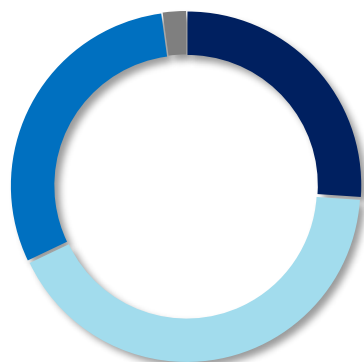
### Strategy Benefits

Complementary	Serves as a conservative piece to growth strategies
Defensive	Maintains minimum principal and duration risk
Disciplined	Quantitatively researched and rules-based management
Transparent	Separately managed account (SMA) structure provides real-time account access

### Management

Firm	NorthCoast Asset Management
Home Office	Greenwich, Connecticut
Account Types	All brokerage, retirement and trust accounts welcome
Contact	203.900.8836 info@northcoastam.com northcoastam.com

## Sample Asset Allocation



- International Bonds
- Corporate & High Yield
- U.S. Treasury
- Asset-Backed & Municipal
- Cash

## Sample Holdings

- IGIB iShares Intermediate Credit Bond ETF
- IGBH iShares Interest Rate Hedged 10+ Yr Corp Bond ETF
- IGLB iShares 10+ Year Credit Bond ETF
- HYGH iShares Int Rate Hedged High Yield Bond ETF
- MBB iShares MBS ETF
- MUB iShares National Muni Bond ETF
- HYD Van Eck Vectors High Yield Municipal Bond ETF
- IEI iShares 3-7 Year Treasury Bond ETF

Sample Holdings determined by weight. The list above is shown for informational purposes only. It can change and is not a recommendation to buy or sell any of these securities or to allocate a portfolio in this manner.

Total Performance  
(% Net)

	2014*	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total Return	Growth of \$1,000,000
Core Fixed Income	1.1	-1.3	5.5	5.7	-1.8	8.9	6.0	-2.2	-12.0	5.6	1.2	16.2	\$1,162,383
U.S. Bonds	2.2	0.5	2.6	3.5	0.0	8.7	7.5	-1.5	-13.0	5.5	1.3	16.9	\$1,168,544

\*2014 Performance period: 8/1/2014-12/31/2014

Annualized Returns  
(% Net)

	1-yr	3-yr	5-yr	Since Inception 8/1/14
Core Fixed Income	1.2	-2.0	-0.5	1.4
U.S. Bonds	1.3	-2.4	-0.3	1.5

## Important Disclosure Information

Kovitz Investment Group Partners, LLC (Kovitz) dba NorthCoast Asset Management is an investment adviser register with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 that provides investment management services to individual and institutional clients. Effective June 1, 2024, NorthCoast Asset Management underwent an organizational change and all persons responsible for portfolio management became employees of Kovitz Investment Group Partners, LLC. Prior to June 1, 2024, NorthCoast Asset management was previously overseen by Focus partner Connectus Wealth since November 1, 2021. From 2008 until November 2021, the Firm was defined as NorthCoast Investment Management, LLC. The accounts managed at the predecessor firms are sufficiently similar to the accounts managed at NorthCoast Asset Management, such that the performance results would provide relevant information to clients or investors.

Past Performance is not indicative of future results. All investments involve risk, including loss of principal. NorthCoast Asset Management (NCAM) claims compliance with the Global Investment Performance Standards (GIPS®). GIPS® is a registered trademark of CFA Institute. The CFA Institute does not endorse or promote this organization, nor does it warrant the accuracy or quality of the content contained herein. NorthCoast Asset Management is a d/b/a of, and investment advisory services are offered through, Kovitz Investment Group Partners, LLC (Kovitz), an investment adviser registered with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Registration with the SEC or any state securities authority does not imply a certain level of skill or training. More information about Kovitz can be found at [www.kovitz.com](http://www.kovitz.com).

Returns are presented net-of-fees. Net-of-fee returns are reduced by trading costs and the portfolio's actual management fee. Valuations are computed and performance is reported in U.S. dollars. A complete list of composite descriptions is available upon request. Policies for valuing portfolios, calculating performance, and preparing compliant presentations are available upon request. To obtain a compliant presentation for the associated strategy, please contact one of our advisors at 800.274.5448.

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Benchmarks - The Barclays Aggregate Bond Index is used for comparison purposes. The Barclays Aggregate Bond Index is a broad-based index designed to represent global investment grade bonds traded in the United States.