THE JAMES ALTUCHER REPORT

THE 5 BEST "RETIREMENT" JOBS IN AMERICA
The 5 Best “Retirement” Jobs in America

Throughout the lifespan of this newsletter, I want to help my readers to find extra income. This is not about getting rich quick.

But it is about finding a few extra thousand a month so you can survive and relax and enjoy life. I will scour other websites, do the research, and point you in the right directions.

I will regularly put out this report for free and I am happy to answer questions about these job possibilities and other ways to make just a little extra income per month.

If you have any questions you can write me at altucher@gmail.com Here are five possibilities.

1. Become an Airbnb Management Company

I read a fantastic article by the guys at NeedWant.com about making money on Airbnb.

They explain the entire process from listing your home to managing guests and exchanging keys. You could use their exact plan to start a management company.

Here's how I would do it: get on padmapper.com and look for places that have been listed for a long time or places that are close to touristy parts of town.

Contact them and offer to set them up on Airbnb. You’ll come over and take pictures of their house, you’ll create their profile on the website, you’ll be the contact person for the guests, you’ll handle delivery of the keys (or install a Lockitron), you’ll even wash the sheets (or just manage the cleaning crew).

You could charge a one-time setup fee and a monthly management subscription. Another method of finding customers would be to find seasonal homes, like beach houses or ski cabins, and leave a letter in the mailbox saying “Want to make some cash while you’re not staying here? I’ll set you up on Airbnb and manage everything. Here’s my number.”

Airbnb is just one choice but there are also sites like onefinestay.com, couchsurfing.com and other local sites that cater to vacation rentals that
could benefit from this. You can be the one-stop shop to set up people on every site without any extra work on their part.

2. Become a Book Publisher

I’m afraid I’m going to steal this idea from a friend of mine, Tucker Max. We discussed his “Book in a Box” idea in one of my podcasts.

The idea is this: put up signs that say, “write and publish your book on Amazon and Barnes & Noble within 30 days”.

How can they do this?

Everyone has a story. Everyone has experiences. And books no longer have to be 400 pages. We are eliminating the middleman (the traditional publisher).

Let’s say another retiree wants to tell his memoirs so his grandchildren can learn from all of his experiences.

Here’s the process:

You interview the “author”. Probably a 2-day process. Interview about all his or her experiences. Record the interview.

Transcribe the interview.

Use fiverr.com to find an editor who will go through and correct basic grammar mistakes and clean up the text (removing the ahhs and umms and also removing the part of the text that was your voice by turning that into intro paragraphs for each section written by the author.

Use 99Designs to make a cover

Use LighteningSource to upload the book and make it available on all platforms in both paperback and e-book form.

You can even use the audio of the interview to make an unabridged audio book through Audible, which will upload it to Amazon as well.

BAM! The book is published. Total cost to you will be approximately $1000 so anything you charge above that is profit.

Tucker’s business is more expensive and more upscale and intended for CEOs publishing memoirs or other higher-end books.

But everyone has a story and everyone needs someone to help him or her tell it. This would be a great business to get steady customers in.

3. Upcycle Furniture

Everyone knows what recycling is, but have you heard of upcycling?

Upcycling is taking something old and not just reusing it but actually making it better than it was before. For example, I have a friend that takes old unwanted furniture, repaints it in bright colors like pink and purple, and decorates it with characters or quotes from Disney movies. She then lists the pieces on Craigslist and OfferUp…..and she makes a killing.

If you love antiquing and painting, this would be the perfect side business for you. Scour local classifieds and garage sales for old furniture, ask your grandkids what the hottest new animated movie is, unleash your inner artist, and voila! You’ll be making money in no time.

One more thing: add a story to the product.

A recent study was done. A group of scientists bought a bunch of cheap pocketknives and listed them on eBay
and auctioned them off. They didn’t write any description.

They repeated the experiment with one difference. They wrote significant backstories for each knife.

The average price of each item went up 300%.

We all live on stories. It turns out we also buy because of a good story. And pay up for it.

4. Onnit for Retirees

There’s a company called Onnit that bills itself as a “human optimization company.”

They sell unique health supplements, funky workout equipment, and organic foods that are all designed to make your body operate at its peak.

Many of their products are on the cutting edge of science, and aren't things that the sluggish medical or fitness industries have caught onto yet. Many seniors are getting fed up with the medical industry that treats every problem by throwing prescriptions at it.

People are ready to start improving the ways their bodies feel and perform not through medications but through learning more about how we were designed to live.

The point being: now is the perfect time to make a website like Onnit specifically for seniors. Study the “Blue Zones” where the average person lives to be over 100.

What foods do they eat? What do they drink? What do they do for exercise?

What conditions do they sleep in? Find all of the products that allow people to recreate this lifestyle and sell them on one site. Advertise it as “timeless health truths that your doctor doesn’t want you to know.”

How do you make money on this? Sell newsletters. Or offer free newsletters where people can buy the products from you. Or offer the products but have an affiliate relationship with the product seller.

Or create an event that explains the secrets of living to be over 100. Charge for the event and then you’ll be able to charge for the products.

But more importantly, doing an event allows you to have practice to do the next idea I’m going to suggest.
5. Become an Event Planner

Many older people have skills to teach.

For instance, I need some help. I don't like going to stores, buying $500 shirts, and then spending an extra $100 on tailoring.

There's evidence that if you go to Target, buy a $30 shirt and then go to a local tailor and spend $10 then nobody can tell the difference between your outfit and the $600 outfit.

So maybe a retiree who knows how to tailor can charge for this service. (free business idea here). BUT EVEN BETTER: How about this person holds an event that teaches the skill to others.

Remember, you make even more money when you show others how to make money.

But what if that person has tailoring skills but doesn't know how to make an event.

Put up signs offering to set up events for others.

Then set up a PayPal account where you can accept payments (you enter in your bank account information to set up a merchant account with PayPal).

Learn EventBrite so you can set up all of the details of an event plus accept payments. People can use their credit card through EventBrite which processes the payment through PayPal.

Set up a Facebook page for the event. Help the user announce the event to his or her Facebook friends.

In your local area determine which locations offer rooms for cheap rent that you can hold an event at (churches or schools or even yoga facilities that have open time).

And BAM! You can now help people set up events, charge a setup fee and take a % of the ticket sales. Plus charge extra to help with marketing.

But not everyone wants to go out and start a business. Sometimes it's good to stay at home, pick your hours and just pick up some supplemental income.

I don't like to do cold calling for sales. But many stay-at-home call center jobs do not involve sales. Some are customer service, some are surveys, some are healthcare related, etc.

I'm cutting and pasting the following text from this site:


But I think they did a great job summarizing the basics here. They describe the types of call center jobs, how to find them, and they focus on the ones that avoid doing any selling, which are very difficult and stressful.

Here is the text:

I want to add one more here...

I said this report would have 5 jobs that can add extra money to supplement a typical retiree income each month.
1. Customer Service Representative

If customers have questions or need assistance placing orders, a customer service representative is there on the other end of the line. Customer Sales Reps aren’t telemarketers trying to make a sale—they’re assisting those who reached out because they already own or are already interested in a product. These positions offer training, so you’ll know the answers to all the customer’s questions even if you have no prior experience.

To find open positions, use your favorite job search engine to search for “Customer Service Representative” with the keyword “telecommute.” When applying, be sure to mention any previous experience working with people and be sure to highlight your people skills.

2. Survey Research

Many surveys are conducted by phone, and survey companies need employees willing to ask all the questions and record the answers. You’ll input the answers into a computer, so basic technical skills are helpful here. Many companies use home-based employees to conduct their surveys.

Try a few different keywords when searching for positions like this one: Survey Research, Survey Center, and Survey Call Center. Be sure to also use a keyword like telecommute or telework, since not all of these positions are home-based. You can also try large companies that conduct survey work for smaller companies, like RTI International.

3. Tech Support

If you left a tech-based job to stay home with your kids, working in a homebased tech support position may be a good option for you. These positions typically take more experience than customer service or survey taking, but that also means they are likely to pay more.

Finding a tech support job will depend a little bit on your experience, so it may involve a bit more searching. “Technical Support” is a good keyword, but again, be sure to make sure the job listing states telework or telecommute, as some of these positions are in physical call centers. When applying, highlight your technical expertise as well as any experience working with people.

4. Retail Finance

Credit card applications and questions are often handled by call center representatives. Companies that offer store-specific credit cards like GECapitol often have home-based positions open in this area. Some positions require previous call center or financial experience, while others will train newbies.

Look at large companies like GE, as well as searching with keywords like Financial Call Center Representative. Again, if you have experience working with people (or in finances), be sure to mention that in your application.

5. Medical Call Center

Telework is sometimes available as a medical based phone representative. This position typically involves answering billing and insurance questions—medical billing and medical transcriptionists often do quite a bit of work by phone. These positions require some training, but because of the growth in billing and transcription positions, training is often widely available. If you have a nursing degree but would rather work from home, positions answering medical questions are also available.

Search for “medical billing” or “medical transcriptionist” and be sure to look for training programs in your area as well.

Working as a home-based call center representative offers flexibility, and it’s home-based work without the loneliness that often comes with it. Sales positions aren’t the only option either. Working as a customer servicerepresentative or a survey researcher can be rewarding options. When applying make sure to mention any experience working with people, as well as key qualities that are good in any telework position like organization and dedication. Many positions will also offer higher pay and preference to those who speak a second language.