



THE SMART MOVE

BY PATRICK MILLER
Dearborn Insurance
The Club's Insurance Partner

Critical Illness Protection

Critical illness insurance is becoming a necessity rather than an option.

Advances in medical technology, drugs and treatment have extended our lifespan, but they have not made us immune from heart attacks, strokes or cancer. Although the above diagnosis is no longer a death sentence, they carry an unbelievable cost financially.

While the rich medical plans we have today cover most of the medical costs, most plans don't cover all of the costs related to treatment and recovery, and they cover none of the costs of nonmedical expenses. Your health insurance won't cover mortgage payments if you are out of work, or transportation to a treatment center or to see an out-of-network doctor.

A MetLife Financial Impact of a Critical Illness study found that the average financial cost associated with a critical illness is \$35,500. Most of the cost is linked to lost wages, the survey

had health insurance. "If you have a critical illness, chances are you're going to survive, but your finances are going to be significantly impacted," Slome said.

Critical illness insurance is a supplemental insurance, which can cost as little as \$20 a month, and covers the expenses associated with cancer, heart attack, stroke and organ transplants. The chance of getting diagnosed with cancer or having a heart attack is heightened for people over age 40. In fact, according to the American Cancer Society, one in two men and one in three women develop cancer in their lifetime.

Although there is no guarantee you will suffer from any of these illnesses, Slome says critical illness insurance can offer peace of mind. According to experts, someone with a family history of any of these types of diseases or who can afford to pay the monthly premium



found. MetLife found that households spend nearly \$5,000 on out-of-pocket medical expenses that insurance won't cover, and about \$1,500 on nonmedical expenses. With critical illness insurance, policyholders receive a lump sum, whether it's \$20,000, \$30,000 or \$50,000 that can be used however users see fit.

According to Jesse Slome, executive director of the American Association for Critical Illness Insurance, improvements in medical treatments means most people will survive very serious illnesses, but a Harvard Medical Study done before the recession found that the vast majority of bankruptcies in the United States were related directly to medical conditions. More surprising, 78 percent of the people who were forced to file for bankruptcy

should consider this form of insurance. Because it pays a lump sum, the insured doesn't have to worry about submitting receipts or getting reimbursed for their expenses. "At the end of the day, the money gives peace of mind, it gives you options," Slome says. "That's what money does."

"A lot of young people in particular are insuring against the wrong risk: insuring against dying," Slome continues. "Your risk of dying is greatly reduced before the age of 65."

Considering the statistical chance of being diagnosed with one of the conditions covered by this type of policy, this may be the smartest insurance dollar you will ever spend.

Patrick Miller represents Dearborn Insurance, the Club's new partner for two areas—critical illness insurance and retirement income. Currently, the Club offers three Dearborn products: the Security Builder Plan, the Timber Ridge Critical Illness Plan, and Paycheck Protection Plus. Ask your Club Counselor for details.

Healing Children
Bienvenidos is a compassionate community of care dedicated to healing children and their families.

Strengthening Families
Our vision is of a society in which every family can provide a loving, healthy and secure home where children can grow and thrive.

Transforming Communities
By empowering those we serve to lift themselves up and change their lives, Bienvenidos is helping build healthier families, brighter futures and more vibrant communities.



■ This ad is possible thanks to the generosity of Terrance Yeager ■

SEEN Around Town



By Jennifer Shackelford
Club Application Coordinator

Something to See

Sometimes, while we are racing around the city going to and from our jobs, we forget to stop and take the time to appreciate some of the unique buildings and artwork that grace our city. Take, for example, the Binoculars Building. Its weird to just be driving along and to see a set of binoculars big enough to drive a car under. But its there, big as life in Venice. Built between 1985 - 1991 for the advertising agency Chiat/Day, the building was designed by architect Frank Gehry. It was his last project in LA before he began on the Walt Disney Concert Hall. It has three different facades which make it very

unusual but its the giant binoculars that really catch the eye. They were designed by Claes Oldenburg and his wife, Coosje van Bruggen. Oldenburg is very well known for his artwork which makes oversized replicas of everyday objects. The binoculars are very well suited to this building which has recently become the home of Google. It is really quite wonderful that this artwork is out on display for all of us to enjoy. Especially if we just take the time to stop and look around.

The Binoculars Building is located just south of Rose Avenue on Main Street in Venice.

