



## DOLLARS AND SENSE

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### **Everyone Needs a Financial First Aid Kit**

Potential tragedies present themselves daily. Experiences such as job lay-offs, medical emergencies, divorce, bad investments, technological changes, impulse spending, inflation, depreciation, and fraud warrant the need for a secure Emergency Financial Plan.

Everyone needs emergency savings, or in other words, a "Financial First Aid Kit!" Just as a first aid kit presents materials to assist in the emergency treatment of physical injuries, a Financial First Aid Kit offers a means to treat financial emergencies.

Your Financial First Aid Kit should include:

Emergency Savings of at least three months income. These funds offer peace of mind. Savings, believe it or not, affects your well being and self confidence. The way you stand, walk and even your tone of voice is affected by the way you feel about yourself. A secure emergency savings fund offers faith and belief in yourself and your abilities.

Adequate life insurance. Life insurance can be compared to a parachute. If you ever need it and haven't invested in it, you certainly will never need it again.

Adequate food and water storage (for six months). Basic necessities in caring for your family are of utmost importance when an emergency strikes. Being prepared is fundamental.

Proper agreements in place to transfer property and designate guardianship of children, (i.e. wills, trusts, employment agreements, deeds of ownership, and retirement plan documents).

What's It Worth?

By being prepared, you have confidence and comfort. Sound decisions can be made in the time of need instead of rushed expensive choices. If you haven't put money in into emergency savings yet, now is the time to do so. It will ensure that enough funds are available when the need arises and can help direct who will raise your children in the event of your death.

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