

# Protecting your family

## Ages 66+

You made it! Hopefully you are looking forward to the rewarding and fulfilling retirement that you planned for and earned through years of hard work.

### DID YOU KNOW?

There are around 22,500 Australian grandparents looking after their grandchildren?<sup>1</sup>

Unfortunately, even the best planning in the world can be quickly unravelled in the event of an unforeseen accident, illness or injury. Are your children and their families adequately protected in the event that their income should cease? Insurance could play an important role in protecting their income and their financial future.

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Share the valuable experience with your family that you have gained over years of building and protecting your wealth.
- Ensure that your children visit a financial planner to make an informed decision.
- Consider helping your children fund insurance in the earlier years until they can afford it themselves.

### CASE STUDY – JOHN AND MARY

John and Mary retired three years ago. Both had worked extremely hard to generate a comfortable retirement and were delighted that their three children were all now living close to home after travelling overseas.

Janine, their eldest daughter was married to Darren and they had two young children. Darren worked in the IT industry earning \$140,000 per year. They had just moved into a new house and Janine was looking after their children full-time.

During a routine GP visit, Darren was referred to a specialist to address some breathing difficulties. The specialist confirmed that Darren had a particularly aggressive lung cancer. Unfortunately, despite intensive treatment, Darren died after a seven month battle.

Darren and Janine's personal savings were used for Darren's treatment and they had already fallen behind on their mortgage repayments. Janine had to sell the home and move back in with John and Mary. John and Mary offered a significant proportion of their retirement savings to help Janine with the mortgage until she could sell the property.

With Janine and the two kids now living in the house, John and Mary's retirement plans were altered significantly. While they would not have had it any other way, their plans for extensive world travel and long overdue home renovations were looking unlikely.

John and Mary had always been very prudent in protecting their income through insurance. If they had talked to their daughter and son-in-law about the importance of this, it could have given Janine options during very difficult circumstances.

This case study is for illustrative purposes only and the terms and conditions of insurance will depend on the particular insurance policy purchased.

### Speak to your financial adviser about how you can help to protect your family

<sup>1</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics, Family Characteristics, Australia June 2003.