

## Legal assistance: An ever-growing need

### Aetna Resources For Living<sup>SM</sup>

As the world grows ever more complex, the issues members find themselves facing become more complex as well. People every day are struggling with issues surrounding marriage and divorce; custody and child support; consumer transactions and housing — and the list goes on.



Yet when confronted with a legal issue, most people don't know where to turn to obtain professional guidance. And cost often presents a substantial barrier. According to the American Bar Association, 80 percent of Americans either can't afford a lawyer, don't qualify for legal aid or can't have a lawyer assigned to them due to shrinking government budgets.<sup>1</sup>

#### Affordable legal help

Your legal assistance benefit provides one (1) free initial 30-minute office or telephone consultation with a network attorney per separate legal matter, up to 3 issues per year.\* If additional assistance is necessary, you may receive a reduced rate. Call for details.

#### Easy access

To access this benefit, simply contact us at our toll free number. After a brief intake and discussion, you will receive a referral to a network attorney who is experienced with your legal matter. The case is monitored throughout the process to help ensure satisfaction.

<sup>1</sup>American Bar Association, July 2011

\* Employees, spouses and dependent children up to age 26 (either in school or living in same household) are eligible for the Basic Legal benefits.

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#### Self-search legal resources

Visit your member website to access thousands of legal articles and resources including the Ask a Lawyer feature.

#### Many legal areas are covered

Some of the areas of law and issues covered include:

- **Family or domestic law** — contested divorce, contested child support, contested spousal support, domestic violence, custody issues
- **General** — civil, real estate matters, bankruptcy, landlord/tenant issues, collection, contractual disputes
- **Criminal** — criminal charges, juvenile matters, DUI
- **Elder law and estate planning** — wills (preparation and review), trusts, probate, Social Security, Medicare

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