|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Type of cost | Explanation | Approximate percentage of total budget |
| Health Insurance | This is a pre-tax cost, meaning any income we receive that goes toward paying this cost is not taxable. We must have international insurance that includes medivac insurance. It is a very significant cost | 12.4% |
| Assessment | This comes off the top of all gifts to Wycliffe USA for operational costs. 6% goes to SIL-PNG, 3% to Wycliffe USA, and 1% goes to Wycliffe Global Alliance. | 10% |
| Social Security & Medicare | This cost is calculated at 15.4% of taxable income. Most people pay 7.7% while their employer is required to pay the other half. We are considered, for this purpose, self-employed and pay the full amount. | 11.2% |
| Retirement Savings | This unfortunately is a category many missionaries are forced to cut back on simply because monthly expenses take priority over future expenses we will see in retirement. As support wanes every time we go overseas for multiple years, it is usually one of the first expenses to get cut. For this reason we personally see this as a bit higher priority as it can become a serious problem later if we can’t take care of ourselves. We are currently putting in about 15% of our income to this as we’ve lost significant time in this category over the first few years of our ministry because of lack of support. | 6.3% |
| Home Assignment | A very large part of our budget is dedicated to saving money to be able to fly to the United States and back when we return to raise more support. This has always been a significant cost, but even more so nowadays with the cost and obstacles to international travel. It is also a very large expense because of the size of our family. This requires us to save approximately $10000 per year just for this expense alone. This is also an area that often-times gets cut as support wanes since it’s a delayed cost and other more immediate needs sometimes just can’t be ignored. | 7.6% |
| Medical Costs | We set aside $200/month into a Health Savings account in the expectation that someday we’ll need to use these funds for medical expenses. | 1.7% |
| Education | There are fees to send our kids to the International School in Ukarumpa. | 6.4% |
| Discretionary funds | The remaining amount goes towards all other regular expenses such as food, housing costs, transportation, clothes, shoes, toys, internet access, social events, taxes, etc. This is the third category that tends to get cut back when support is not sufficient. Also note that when support is insufficient, the percentage of the budget going to the other categories increases as the actual dollar amount doesn’t go down except in the case of taxes and assessment. Any tithing we do comes out of these funds as well. | 44% |