

For Immediate Release

## **Kindness Between Friends Housing Program Accused of Exploiting Vulnerable Tenants with Illegal Fees and Harassment**

[PERKASIE, PA, 2024] — An independent investigation has revealed troubling practices within the Kindness Between Friends housing program, raising serious concerns about its treatment of vulnerable tenants. Reports from multiple former tenants describe a pattern of exploitation, including illegal fees, harassment, and evictions that appear to violate Pennsylvania landlord-tenant laws.

A recent case involves a tenant who faces eviction for refusing to pay a \$50 daily late fee that was not in their signed lease agreement. According to the tenant, this fee was unlawfully imposed, despite the fact that rent had been paid a week early. When the tenant contested the charge, they were informed that failure to pay the fee would result in eviction. Additionally, the tenant was billed for costly repairs to the property that were determined by two independent contractors to be due to pre-existing structural damage. Upon refusal to pay these unlawful charges, the tenant was served with a 15-day vacate notice and now faces the prospect of a permanent eviction on their record.

Reports indicate that this is not an isolated incident. Multiple former tenants have come forward to share similar stories of financial exploitation and harassment. They describe a disturbing environment where tenants, many of whom are in difficult financial situations, are burdened with unlawful charges and pushed out of the program if they refuse to comply. Some tenants have also reported being threatened with lockouts, raising concerns about the program's compliance with legal eviction procedures.

Beyond the alleged predatory housing practices, Kindness Between Friends is also facing scrutiny for its fundraising activities. Many former tenants claim that their personal struggles were used in appeals for donations, with the program soliciting funds under the guise of helping those in need. However, several individuals who commented on these appeals expressed suspicion about the legitimacy of these



donation claims, noting repetitive patterns in responses that raised doubts about whether the funds were truly reaching those in need.

While Kindness Between Friends has publicly promoted its charitable activities, including donation drives and volunteer efforts, the recent investigation suggests a stark contrast between the program's public image and its internal practices. By leveraging the goodwill of donors and community members, the program appears to mask its exploitative housing practices, leaving tenants in worse situations than when they entered the program.

**Key Allegations Include:**

- Imposition of illegal fees not outlined in lease agreements, such as \$50 daily late fees.
- Threats of eviction within 15 days and, in some cases, lockouts, even when tenants have paid rent early.
- Unlawful billing of tenants for property repairs related to pre-existing structural damage.
- Questionable fundraising practices, using tenants' hardships to solicit donations that may not directly benefit those in need.

This investigation is ongoing, and more former tenants and donors are coming forward to share their experiences. The emerging accounts suggest that, far from providing the supportive housing environment it claims, Kindness Between Friends may be engaging in predatory practices that exploit vulnerable individuals under the pretense of charity.

**About Kindness Between Friends:** Kindness Between Friends is a housing program that claims to provide support for individuals and families in need, offering temporary housing and community resources. However, recent investigations raise concerns about the program's operations, particularly its treatment of tenants and financial practices.

For further inquiries, please visit our website:

<https://kindnessbetweenfriends.com/>

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