

THE BRONX FREEDOM FUND

January 28, 2019

Nick Jehlen
Common Practice
1100 North Front St #204
Philadelphia PA 19123-1761

Dear Nick,

On behalf of the board and clients of The Bronx Freedom Fund, I would like to thank you for Common Practice's generous donation of \$41,193.61 on December 26, 2018.

Your support allows us to continue securing the release of New Yorkers from pretrial detention, reuniting them with their families and helping them avoid the devastating consequences of jail time.

Over the past few years, we have posted bail for almost 1,700 people . Each person we've posted bail for has a life, a family, a livelihood, and a community they were wrenched away from. Each person would have spent days, weeks, months, or even years jailed at Rikers Island or a floating barge called The Boat, subject to unimaginable violence and kept away from their families, simply because they couldn't afford bail.

Being at liberty pretrial has an immense impact on our clients' cases. Prosecutors use pretrial incarceration as a way to coerce guilty pleas from people who are desperate to leave jail and go home. **92%** of people incarcerated until the end of their case plead guilty. On the other hand, **more than half** our clients' cases end in a dismissal of all charges.

And because bail was never intended as punishment – only as an incentive to return to court – we are refunded bail payments an average of **112 days after they're first posted**, which means your donation can be used to post bail **two or three times per year**.

In fact, our revolving bail fund program has been so successful that we've taken the model national with The Bail Project. Using the lessons we've learned in the Bronx, The Bail Project is currently operating in nine sites and plans on opening 40 sites across the country over the next five years.

Thank you for being a part of this historic national fight against a racist and classist money bail system. Together, we can win.

Sincerely,

Elena Weissmann
Director, The Bronx Freedom Fund

*We plan to recognize this contribution as a gift from Common Practice. No goods or services were provided in exchange for your contribution.
Please retain this letter for your tax record.*