

Compounding Difficulty

Keeping shared property a blessing.

Client Concern

Wealthy families often own shared properties in the form of a family compound, intended to be a platform for family gatherings and cohesion. One client family found that, over time, expectations for how such a compound would be used and managed began to change. Significant dissension developed over how to allocate access between family members, manage repairs and upkeep, and, eventually, allow family members to remove themselves entirely.

The Result

The solution dramatically reduced family tensions through a better allocation of family resources and a clarified operating approach. Now, the properties can be a source of joy for those who have chosen to participate without creating a headache for those who have not.



Our Solution

Ballentine Partners helped family members clarify their interests and evaluate alternatives, developing a solution that:

- Maintained ownership in a family trust to support long-term ownership & governance
- Separated the trust, allocating more-liquid assets to those opting out
- Developed budgets and ensured sufficient resources for property upkeep
- Defined clear responsibilities for property maintenance and oversight
- Provided for regular monitoring of the approach and changes as needed

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