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**Dear Martha's Vineyard Commission:**

I am writing to express our support of the Stillpoint plan on State Road in West Tisbury. As an island native non-profit, our mission is to use tribal cultural and traditional ways of teaching to create safe spaces for people. Our program activities include a youth group for native girls, traditional 3 Sister teaching Gardens, therapeutic / traditional art and music class for healing, and traditional nature teachings. In addition to providing this much needed support to the tribal community we will also be working with the general public and non-native service providers both on and off island to provide cultural competency education.

Kinship Heals and Stillpoint's relationship is a reflection of our work. Stillpoint allowing space for tribal people, a tribal organization sharing knowledge, and both working together to create a healthier community for everyone.

Additionally at the very heart of Kinship Heals is restoring relationship between people, animals, land and water. The land and energy of Stillpoint is something that should be respected and protected. There have been studies done in the work of native American sexual assault advocacy and it is an industry accepted truth that the best form of healing for indigenous people is through their culture. There is no bigger piece of our culture than our relationship to earth and water. In my experience having access to quiet, natural spaces such as Stillpoint are vital not just to indigenous people trying to heal, but to all humans. I truly hope and look forward to be able to share indigenous knowledge in how we are all connected and how we can be in good relations with each other. Now more than ever, with climate change, sea level rising, and shifting political emergencies we need to figure out how to start living in balance. I believe the Stillpoint project is a perfect place to start.

Yours truly,  
*Jennifer Randolph*