

January 14, 2022

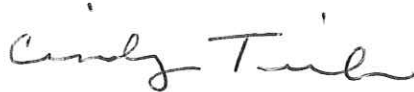
To the Edgartown Planning Board,

I am writing this letter to express my support for the development of the Green House in Edgartown. As Executive Director of Healthy Aging Martha's Vineyard, I can attest to the need for such a facility on our Island. Our recent all-Island Older Adult survey revealed that a minimum of 150 of Older Adults have a current need for such a facility with many more anticipating a need in the future. This need is further magnified by the fact that 1 in 3 of our Island's residents are now 65+.

When the need arises for a skilled nursing facility, many Older Adults must go off-Island to obtain this care, further creating stress and anxiety for themselves and their families. While our Island-wide focus is on providing the opportunity to age-in-place, there comes a time for some when such a facility is the necessary option. To be able to have a state-of-the-art model and facility such as the Green House is certainly a testament to our community's commitment to our Older Adults, regardless of their financial status.

As a resident of Edgartown, I am delighted that our town is willing to support this Island-wide need not only for the Older Adults who live in Edgartown but for all our Island residents. This has been a 10+ year journey and a priority focus of HAMV to visualize such a solution, working with the hospital to make this a reality, and identifying a location for this facility. Please help keep the progress going. The need is now.

Best,



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