



April 12, 2022

Martha's Vineyard Commission

Greetings,

I am writing this letter to express my support for the development of the Green House in Edgartown (being built by Navigator Homes of Martha's Vineyard, Inc.). 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.

Clearly this endeavor is well aligned to the mission of Martha's Vineyard Commission; "To assist our region's 7 towns (Aquinnah, Chilmark, Edgartown, Gosnold, Oak Bluffs, Tisbury, & West Tisbury) with planning expertise; and (2.) Protect and enhance the islands' environment, economy, character, and social fabric." I can't think of a better example of an investment that will enhance the lives of Islanders for generations to come.

Best,

*Cindy Trish*

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