

DUKES COUNTY REGIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT to the County of Dukes County, 2008

The Dukes County Regional Housing Authority provides affordable year-round rentals and rental assistance, homebuyer training and lottery support, waitlist management, monitoring services and advocacy and collaboration with town committees, island organizations, local businesses and concerned individuals working to create the housing options needed to maintain our Island community.

The Housing Authority's support of affordable homeownership in FY08 included the **lottery** of 9 homes developed by the Island Affordable Housing Fund at Jenney Way in Edgartown. Assistance with the lottery criteria, participant certification, lottery preparation and **Homebuyer Education** is also currently being used by town Housing Committees in Edgartown, Chilmark, Tisbury and Oak Bluffs, the Island Housing Trust and private developers for upcoming lotteries. We also maintain the **Island Affordable Homebuyer Clearinghouse** to publicize homebuyer opportunities and the **Martha's Vineyard Subsidized Housing Inventory** to assist in assuring future protection of existing affordability restrictions. This year the Inventory was used to assist Tisbury and Aquinnah tax assessors in their assessments of affordable properties in their towns.

On July 1st, 2007 the 4 other Island towns joined Aquinnah and Chilmark in utilizing Community Preservation Act funding to add town based subsidies to those provided through the Island Affordable Housing Fund. The Housing Authority now facilitates **68 Rental Assistance subsidies** across the Island. The Housing Authority also offered **57 units of rental housing** on nine properties in 4 towns; oversaw the **32 Accessory Apartment** program in West Tisbury; used Tisbury CPA funding to continue **rehabilitation of 9 apartments**; assisted Edgartown in their rent-up of the **Morgan Woods** complex of 60 apartments; assisted Housing Committees in Aquinnah, Oak Bluffs and West Tisbury in their development of rental opportunities; maintained a **Rental Housing Waitlist** numbering close to 300 applicants; and partnered with other organizations that offer assistance with rent, utilities and apartment rehabilitation to Island renters and their landlords.

The Housing Authority manages the **Vineyard Housing Office** on State Road in Vineyard Haven as a clearinghouse for rental and homeownership opportunities and a focus for islanders working together on housing issues. The VHO currently is home to the Housing Authority, the Island Housing Trust, the Island Affordable Housing Fund, and Habitat for Humanity of Martha's Vineyard and offers a website, **www.vineyardhousing.org**, as a comprehensive resource for affordable housing on Martha's Vineyard.

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