

## **DUKES COUNTY REGIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY**

### **ANNUAL REPORT to Dukes County, June 2010**

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.

On the rental front, the Housing Authority partnered with The Resource Inc. to provide significant safety and access upgrades to four of our buildings including integrated smoke alarm systems, window replacement, exterior stairs and paths and an elevator used by 6 senior tenants. We managed 61 units of rental housing offered on ten properties in 4 towns; assisted Housing Committees in Oak Bluffs and Chilmark in their development of rental opportunities; administered the West Tisbury Accessory Apartment program; maintained a Rental Housing Waitlist numbering 250 applicants; and partnered with other organizations that offer assistance with rent, utilities and apartment rehabilitation to Island renters and their landlords.

Town support was a significant factor in successfully filling a funding gap for the Rental Assistance program used by 87 households across the island in the fall of 2009. All 6 Island towns use CPA funding to provide rental subsidies and are being asked to add those subsidies formerly funded privately through the Island Affordable Housing Fund.

The Housing Authority's support of affordable homeownership included 2 lotteries of 3 homes in Edgartown, 1 home re-sale in West Tisbury, 2 condo re-sales in Tisbury, support of 2 Chilmark lotteries of 7 resident homesites and preparation for upcoming lotteries in West Tisbury, Tisbury and Edgartown where assistance with lottery criteria, participant certification and Homebuyer Education will be used by town Housing Committees and the Island Housing Trust. 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.

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.

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