



## community development partnership

*Creating opportunities for people to live, work, and thrive on the Lower Cape*

### Strategic Alliance for a Stronger Lower Cape

***“Families here are really struggling. We’re seeing the demand for services from each of our organizations increasing each year. By working in collaboration, we can preserve and strengthen the region’s social safety net.”***

Fran McClennen, Vice President  
CDP Board of Directors



*Present for the signing of the agreement were (back row, from left) Fran McClennen of the Community Development Partnership, Cindy Horgan of Cape Cod Children’s Place, Jay Coburn of the CDP, Hadley Luddy of the Homeless Prevention Council and David Willard, HPC board member emeritus; and (front row, from left) Deb Martin of Cape Cod Children’s Place, Ben deRuyter of the CDP, and Maryann Campagna of the HPC.*

We are thrilled to announce a new strategic alliance between the Community Development Partnership (CDP), Cape Cod Children’s Place (CCCP) and Homeless Prevention Council (HPC). Signed into formal agreement just after Thanksgiving, the alliance will enhance the services and support provided to low- and moderate-income individuals and families on the Lower and Outer Cape –allowing for more efficient service delivery, ease of access, and potential new program opportunities

The three organizations collectively serve low- and moderate-income residents through affordable housing, early child education and care, family support services, homelessness prevention, job skills and economic opportunity.

The organizations have a long history of working together, providing referrals to one another and overlapping the residents we serve. CDP Board Vice President, Fran McClennen, said, “Working collaboratively to offer a menu of services and a

coordinated plan to get people what they need is much more effective and efficient. Altogether, we anticipate serving our community more successfully as a result of this formal partnership.”

One of the key components driving the alliance is the unique needs of the Lower and Outer Cape. With a combined history of 76 years, the CDP, CCCP and HPC are acutely aware of the challenges and

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opportunities in this more rural region of the Cape. The economy is more seasonal with a greater reliance on lower paying seasonal jobs. In addition, the region has rates of second home ownership in excess of 50% creating unique pressures on housing affordability. There is a long history of the region being underserved.

CCCP Executive Director, Cindy Horgan said, “Families here are really struggling. We’re seeing the demand for services from each of our organizations increasing each year. By working in collaboration, we can preserve and strengthen the region’s social safety net.” The strategic alliance evolved through a thoughtful and patient process including regular meetings of each organization’s board and staff leadership.

Ongoing communication led to an environment of trust and mutual support. Richard Laraja, President of the Board of Directors for the HPC said, “This process reinforced relationships and connections amongst our organizations. It has been of tremendous value to work and learn with the leadership of the Cape Cod Children’s Place and Community Development Partnership. We’re all speaking the same language and share a vision to strengthen our community.”

There are a number of programs that the CDP, CCCP and HPC have identified with the potential for collaboration, including– homelessness prevention, family support services, resident support services, First Time Home Buyer education, early education and care, and job training.

As for next steps, potential collaborative projects will be vetted by the organizations. And, according to McClennen, “Another critical component of the work of the alliance going forward is to find the ‘missing pieces’ and determine what more needs to be done to best serve our community.” In the same vein, she noted, “This is a first step, and in the future, we would welcome other local organizations whose missions overlap ours, to consider joining us in this collaborative effort. I am excited and inspired as we move forward with this dynamic opportunity.”