



# community development partnership

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

## Community Development Partnership Held 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

The Community Development Partnership held its Annual Meeting on May 19, 2022, with over 50 members attending the virtual meeting.

During the meeting, Jay Coburn, Chief Executive Officer and the CDP staff shared highlights from 2021. You can see a video of the staff sharing highlights from the past year on our [YouTube Channel](#). We also recognized community members and small businesses with our annual awards and introduced the slate of Board Officers and three new Board members to the CDP's Board of Directors.

Some of the key highlights from the presentation included:

- 95 Lawrence Road - The CDP's partnership with Preservation of Affordable Housing (POAH) that was selected by the Town of Wellfleet to develop 46 units of affordable, net-zero in energy consumption, housing.
- Our staff is growing! We increased staff within the Business and Credit program to expand outreach to local business owners in our service area particularly with minority and immigrant owned businesses. And we have added new positions to enhance our community organizing and support the creation of Accessory Dwelling Units.
- We have worked to address issues of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion - The Board and staff participated in two courses facilitated by the Lower Cape Leadership Forum. And we created Board and Staff DEIB working groups to address issues of diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging facing our organization and our community.
- In the Spring of 2021, we launched Phase II of our public education campaign entitled We Can't Afford to Lose the People Who Can't Afford to Live Here. The campaign ran in local newspapers, on social media and our videos can be seen on our website.

During the awards portion of the evening, the 17<sup>th</sup> Pelletier Award for Excellence in Community Service was presented to **Fran and Alan McClenen** of Orleans.

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Collaboratively, Fran and Alan have shared their unique skills to create a better community for all of us. Fran was recognized for her grassroots approach to housing and the environment, and Alan, with his understanding of local government, has made an enormous impact on the Town of Orleans addressing water quality issues through wastewater treatment. The McClellens care deeply about their community and truly understand what it takes to build a diverse year-round community of people who can afford to live, work and thrive on the Lower Cape.



*Fran and Alan  
McClellens*

The 8<sup>th</sup> Norm Edinberg Award for Excellence in Entrepreneurship was presented to **Katherine (Katie) Reed**, CEO and co-founder, of **Chequessett Chocolate** in Truro. The award recognizes an established Lower Cape business owner who has utilized CDP business and credit services, and who has an established community connection.



*Katherine Reed,  
CEO & Co-Founder,  
Chequessett Chocolate*

Chequessett Chocolate was founded after Katie returned to Wellfleet from a trip to Costa Rica where she was inspired by the commitment of local cacao farmers to raise their crops using sustainable practices. In 2014, with startup funds from the CDP's small business loan program, the Chequessett Chocolate Factory and Café opened in Truro. Since then, Chequessett Chocolate has won multiple awards and been recognized as one of the best craft chocolate makers in the United States. Katie's vision and hard work are great examples of an entrepreneurial spirit that has created year-round jobs on the Outer Cape.

During the business meeting portion of the evening, the Members elected a new slate of Officers for the coming fiscal year. Steve Cole was elected as Chair, Carole Ridley was elected as Vice-Chair, Mary Nee as Treasurer, with Jennifer Cusack remaining as Clerk.

Other members of the Board of Directors include Mat Cole (Immediate Past Chair); Polly Bryson; Andrew Foss; David Koven; Robert MacCready; Marin Reinhardt; Raphael Richter; Paul Ruchinskas; Kristy Senatori; Andrew Stern; and Brett Tolley.

"We are excited to welcome our three new Board members who each bring their own set of experiences and skills that will help us move forward as we enter our 30<sup>th</sup> year," said Steve Cole, the Board's new Chair. "Serving as a Board member is a strategic way to serve the Lower Cape community and contribute to the economic diversity and sustainability of our region."

The Community Development Partnership (CDP) is governed by an eighteen-member Board of Directors who all live or work within the agency's service area. To learn more about the CDP Board members, visit [capecdp.org](http://capecdp.org).

We thank those who were able to attend the meeting, and we look forward to continuing our work as we enter our 30<sup>th</sup> year of leading the Lower Cape in building a diverse year-round community of people who can afford to live, work and thrive here.