



community development partnership

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

Transforming a Neighborhood One Household at a Time...

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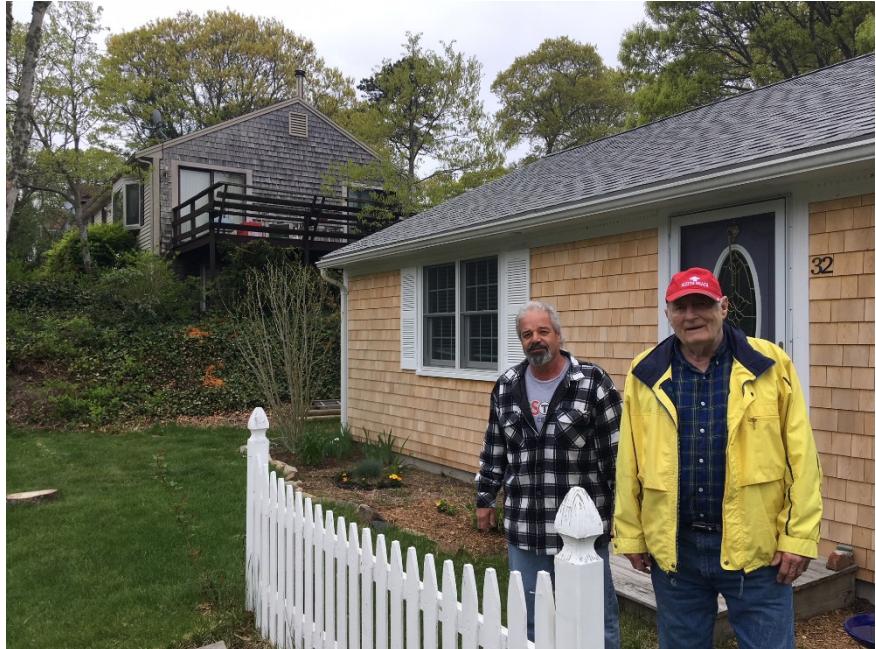
Mike Terasconi, Housing Rehab client, Dennis

When the electrician went downstairs to check the panel at Mike and Celeste Terasconi's house in Dennis he couldn't believe his ears. The panel was sizzling.

He was at the house because the Terasconi's had become the CDP's newest Housing Rehab client and he needed to determine what electrical work was necessary. Had the panel not been checked it is very likely that an electrical fire would have occurred with potentially devastating consequences.

Mike Terasconi heard about the Housing Rehab program from a CDP postcard mailing. "It just didn't sound right and my kids didn't believe it. It seemed too good to be true," he says. But Mike reached out to the CDP and before long he had contractors at the house identifying the critical repairs. The electrical panel shot to the top of the list.

A construction worker for 32 years, Mike suffered a broken back and is now disabled. "We needed the windows and roof to get done, as well as re-shingling the house and putting a railing on the deck for safety," comments Mike. "My home now has all the updated construction that would have taken me years to get done."



Mike Terasconi (L) and Bob Gorman (R) stand in front of Mike's newly shingled house. Bob's house, up on the hill, is going to be rehabbed this summer.

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After Mike reached out to the CDP, he went over and spoke to his neighbor of 20 years, Bob Gorman, who is a retired disabled veteran. Mike brought the postcard over to Bob and told him to contact the CDP. Mike was there to help when Bob struggled with the application. The work is now out to bid and Bob notes that “we are cookin’ now!” When the work is completed early this summer, Bob will have a new roof, windows, new decking, siding and smoke detectors.

“The program is great for people in our situation we don’t have the ability to do this work,” says Mike. “With the price of materials now it is just not possible – to be able to get \$40,000 worth of work done on your house is incredible. I can’t say enough about the program. It’s great as it will keep people in their house for at least 15 more years.”

Mike referred another neighbor across the street who is waiting for the contractors to arrive in June. In fact, to date, the Housing Rehab program has transformed five houses on Uncle Bill’s Way with two more in process. It has made an impact on the community with neighbors feeling a greater sense of pride in their homes and in their street. “It is truly transforming the neighborhood,” says Mike. “It lifts the spirits, makes you proud to live on the street and proud of your home.”