



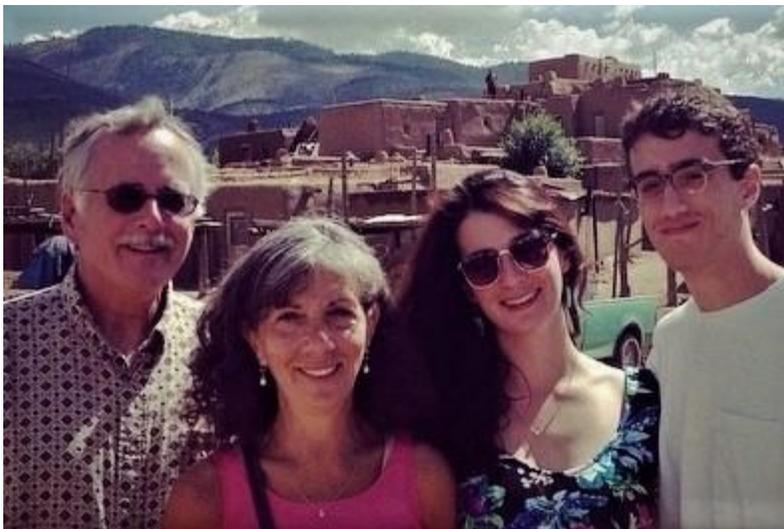
community development partnership

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

Supporter Spotlight: Andrea Reed

“The CDP is my primary organization to support...I know people whose lives have been changed by efforts of the CDP.”

Andrea Reed
CDP Advisory Council Member



Andrea Reed thinks about housing and economic development a lot. Chair of the Orleans Planning Board, a former arts educator and mother of three, she brings those perspectives and her passion for the Lower Cape community to the CDP’s Advisory Council.

“Year-round housing and job creation is critical, and that is why the CDP is one of my favorite Cape organizations” says Andrea. “The CDP invests its money where it matters and changes lives through its work on the ground.”

Andrea Reed with her husband Tim, and their children Marie and Gus

A native of Washington D.C., Andrea grew up in a house immersed in public service – her father led R & D for the former US Atomic Energy Commission, her mom was a psychiatric social worker. The concept of public service was ingrained in her upbringing as a patriotic responsibility in a democracy. After earning her Master’s degree from UCLA, Andrea taught in the DC area before moving to Cleveland for her husband’s medical residency in 1987. Once there, Andrea worked for Young Audiences of Northeast Ohio developing translations and assessments of core curriculum for the Cleveland Public School system. Tim was recruited to join Orleans Medical in 1998.

Andrea landed a position as Outreach Director for the Academy of Performing Arts while their three children were young. When arts educational funding through the Mass Cultural Council was gutted in 2004, which was the primary support for the Academy outreach programs, “my hair stylist told me

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that there were only three jobs that were recession proof - real estate, hairdressing, and house cleaning. She told me with my arts background that if I went to hair school, she would hire me the day I graduated. I still work for her, almost 15 years later," recalls Andrea.

This personal experience combined with her work with non-profits "has helped me understand the issues of small businesses," Andrea remarks. "I see how small businesses are trying to stay alive. We are a seasonal community with high housing costs. It's difficult to recruit doctors, firefighters, police and teachers." In this struggle, she sees opportunity.

"The CDP is such a vital player in leading the conversation on change," says Andrea. "Look at what you accomplished with the Housing Institute." Andrea continues, "The CDP doesn't operate in crisis intervention, instead it is about sustaining livable futures and no one else is doing that in quite the same way."

While Andrea is hopeful she feels that the two primary issues of housing and economic development are really a critical mass story. "We are just at the tip of the iceberg...there are still a few nuts we need to crack at the regional level, such as our need for wastewater infrastructure to support the density we need and want." She also recognizes the need for developing more creative funding mechanisms around affordable housing "in order to make the numbers work for developers."

"I joined the CDP's Advisory Board in 2013 because I believed in its leadership and saw that this was an organization committed to empowering communities where they were," says Andrea. "The CDP led the conversation on housing and I think there is an opportunity to champion economic vitality and be an organizing and collaborative force around this issue."

Andrea is a teacher at heart and believes that "we need to express to the public what we know in a way that empowers people." She also feels that "we need to set up ongoing conversations about the future of our towns without scaring everyone to death. The Housing Institute was a model for this in that it was a safe place for everyone to learn and brainstorm about these critical issues."

It is the strong sense of community on the Lower Cape that is the binding force for Andrea. "We are like a big extended family here and when adversity strikes, we circle the wagons and take care of our own. One person can make a difference and it is possible to change people's lives here – and I know people whose lives have been changed by the efforts of the CDP. "

When Andrea is not working on the Orleans Planning Board, helping to implement a vision of a robust and diverse community, you can catch her at dawn walking their two rescue dogs or working with pastels from her perch on Crystal Lake. She has also gotten her husband Tim more involved with the CDP – this year he rode with Team CDP in The Gasp charitable bike ride from Sandwich to Provincetown which helped raise money for CDP programs. They are "annual participants in the CDP's CITC program as one example of the savviness of this outstanding organization."