



# community development partnership

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

## Supporting Independent Lifestyles through Affordable Housing

**“The office is very helpful and polite. The maintenance team is especially professional when responding to requests.”**

*-Sally Michael, Resident, Thankful Chases Pathway*

At the CDP, our mission is to promote the creation of a diverse year-round community of people who can afford to live, work, and thrive here. This means creating a community that is desirable and attainable for everyone, from young families to retirees. Sally Michael lives at Thankful Chases Pathway, one of the CDP’s affordable rental housing properties.



Sally has a long history of visiting the Cape. She first ventured over the bridges in the 1950’s, when she spent a year at a boarding school and summer camp in Yarmouth. She spent most of her life living in and around Washington DC but would travel back to the Cape nearly every summer. She owned a condo in Provincetown. In 2012, she had the opportunity to move here full-time for work and she took it without hesitation.

Sally had been living and working on the Cape for 7 years when she suffered a debilitating injury in 2019. She went to a long-term care facility to recover. This incident drastically changed her needs for the future. Locating housing would be much more challenging when she was ready to move out of the care facility.

Finding affordable housing on the Lower and Outer Cape is a difficult challenge in of itself. [A 2017 analysis by the Cape Cod Commission](#) predicts that by 2025 there will be a gap of almost 34,000 housing units just to meet the demand of the region’s population. This can lead to long wait times when people apply for existing affordable housing. For a person with a disability or other mobility challenges, the situation is compounded.

After a time at the long-term rehab facility, Sally began preparing to move out. “I felt like I was ready to get back to a more independent lifestyle,” she says. Sally applied for and received a waiver through the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission. This program helps Massachusetts residents with chronic medical issues maintain an independent lifestyle. It connects participants with the necessary services in their community.

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Through the Rehab Commission, Sally was also made aware of an available rental at Thankful Chases Pathway, the CDP's affordable housing development in Harwich. She applied and was accepted for the unit in late 2019, moving in at the beginning of 2020. "It was the only unit I looked at, so I'm thankful I was able to get in," she says.

Thankful Chases Pathway has two units that are American with Disabilities Act (ADA) certified. For Sally, this was the biggest factor when making the move. "The fact that there are handicap amenities has been very important for me," she says. Sally also enjoys the quiet neighborhood and the sense of community she feels with her neighbors. Since moving in, Sally has had good experiences working with the CDP staff too. "The office is very helpful and polite. The maintenance team is especially professional when responding to requests."

The CDP is happy to have housing options for members of the community like Sally, but also recognizes there is much more work to be done. To learn more about the housing the CDP manages, and about our housing advocacy work in the community, visit [capecdp.org/affordable-housing](https://capecdp.org/affordable-housing).