



community development partnership

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

Supporter Spotlight: Heather Hill

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—Heather Hill, CDP Supporter

A decade ago, after living in North Carolina for 20 years, Heather and David Hill decided it was time for their family to move up northeast. David worked remotely so moving to another state would not be a concern. They were eager to be closer to family and wanted to live in an economically diverse area with a good school system for their three sons. The Nauset school system along with the natural environment of the lower cape was very appealing to Heather.

The family settled in Orleans and Heather immediately loved the sense of community. She became an active volunteer in the school system, at Mass Audubon, and with the Friends of the National Seashore. And then, like many who vacationed on the Cape and decided to move here year-round, she began to see some of the challenges within the community resulting from a one-season economy.



Heather was first introduced to the Community Development Partnership in 2017 through an invitation from Alison Supple, an Advisory Council member, to the agency’s A Summer Evening on the Farm event. Heather was already acquainted with Halcyon Farms, where the event was held, and was excited to learn more about CDP’s programs and services. “Dan Wolf was such an eloquent host of the Fund-a-Need Auction. I was inspired by the programs and services the CDP was offering, and the information about the CITC Tax Credit Program made it an easy decision. I donated on the spot,” recalls Heather.

“As I became settled in my community, I couldn’t avoid hearing about the concerns of housing on the Cape. Housing and economic development are a big concern to me. You can’t attend a Town Meeting without hearing about these issues – they are interconnected,” said Heather.

Heather is concerned about the future of the Cape. “We need more housing, but it is more than just building... you need to have a good sewer system in place, and sustainable jobs for people to live here

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year-round. And we need to build with more density,” continued Heather, “the Cape is not that big a place, so we need to build up!”

Heather’s parents had lived in Eastham but as they aged, they decided it would be best to live in a senior community with amenities yet could not find anything that offered the amenities they were hoping for and decided to move off Cape. “Homes are getting so expensive and older folks need more services so many have nowhere to go. And our younger folks can’t afford to buy or rent here. I worry about the future of the Cape,” stated Heather.

Heather believes it is very important to invest community organizations like the CDP and to support local businesses and she encourages others to volunteer in their local community.