



## community development partnership

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

### **Spring Town Meeting Results: \$8.6 million in funding for housing initiatives a cause for celebration**

Early this spring the CDP's Lower Cape Community Housing Partnership (LCCHP) wrapped up its second year in which 55 municipal officials participated in the Housing Institute and 58 local residents were trained as housing advocates. As municipal officials and housing advocates prepared for Town Meetings across the Lower Cape, the CDP amplified the need for housing through its "We Can't Afford to Lose the People Who Can't Afford to Live Here" public education campaign.

CDP trained advocates attended committee meetings, asked questions, posted flyers in their communities, made phone calls, spread the word and showed up to fight for articles that supported housing in each of the eight towns of the Lower and Outer Cape.

We are thrilled that Lower Cape Select Boards demonstrated their commitment to housing production at this spring's Town Meetings by recommending 48 housing-related articles totaling over \$8.5 million in Town funding. Proposals for Town Meeting consideration included changes in zoning, funding for Affordable Housing Trusts, developing or acquiring land and increasing their town's capacity to advance housing production goals.

The CDP believes that Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) can be part of the multi-pronged solution needed to address our housing crisis. Eastham, Orleans, Harwich and Chatham all approved changes to their ADU by-laws to streamline the permitting process while requiring that new units be occupied year round. Provincetown approved a change to their zoning by-laws to require more affordable housing in privately created developments.

The combined efforts of town officials and advocates, and the subsequent successes seen at Town Meetings, signal a regional willingness to address our region's affordable housing crisis, and it has been incredibly rewarding to see such concrete efforts move forward thanks to the efforts of the CDP through our Lower Cape Community Housing Partnership.



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The CDP's Lower Cape Community Housing Partnership will continue working with municipal officials to develop the skills they need to address the Cape's affordable housing crisis, as well as engaging everyday citizens to advocate for progress on housing affordability. We are increasingly optimistic that our towns are taking the bold actions that are needed to preserve our year-round community. We all deserve to be able to live, work and thrive in this place we call home.