



HAMV's accomplishments in FY2026 (July 1, 2025- June 30, 2026)

Executed our Strategic and Operating Plans focusing on 6 priorities, achieving numerous plan milestones, broadening and deepening the impact of our efforts in our community.

Strengthened collaborations with agencies serving Older Adults including the Martha's Vineyard Hospital (MGB/MVH), Councils on Aging (COAs), Island Elderly Housing (IEH), Martha's Vineyard Center for Living, (MVC4L), Martha's Vineyard Commission (MVC), Veterans Outreach, Vineyard Transit Authority (VTA) Steamship Authority (SSA), Healthy Aging Cape Cod (HACC) and others to execute and evolve our plan.

Increased grant and donation funding to almost \$500,000 to support the development of existing and new programs to address unmet needs of Older Adults.

Secured funding to manage multiple existing transportation, technology support and falls prevention programs with participants reporting average scores of 4.8 on a 5-point scale on the impact of these programs to "improve the quality of my life", "reduce feelings of isolation", and "increase access to healthcare". Introduced two new transportation programs to address service gaps.

Managed an HAMV staff of five part-time employees (in addition to the 1 FT employee funded by the towns) to support our coalition, program, research, and advocacy work.

Provided research and planning support to island agencies and our elected officials as well as collaborated with the MV Commission on the release of their Older Adult Agency Landscape report, an asset for island-wide planning to address high-priority service gaps.

Introduced an island-wide annual **HAMV Healthy Aging Champion** award given to an islander who **advocates policy change, leads by example, improves healthcare access, educates the public and empowers Older Adults**. Denise Schepici, previously CEO of MGB/MVH, was the recipient of this award.

Coalition/Initiative Work

HAMV continues to oversee and manage coalitions of Island agencies and community activists to address key island-wide Older Adult unmet needs. Our coalitions identify key priorities for collaborative brainstorming and action to address these gaps and provide fit-for-purpose programs.





Older Adult Transportation Coalition- 15+ agency partners

The coalition's mission is to ensure that there are adequate options for both on-island enrichment and essential (medical) transportation needs for older adults, as well as off-island medical transport.

Falls Prevention Coalition - +10 agency partners and community activists

The mission is to collectively raise island-wide awareness of the risk of falling as one ages, to educate Older Adults on fall prevention strategies, and to empower Older Adults to take action to reduce their fall risk and, when they do fall, recover more quickly.

Digital Equity Coalition – 10+ agency partners and community activists

The mission is to provide ongoing technology training assistance to increase the confidence and competence of Older Adults in accessing essential services online (telemedicine and other support services) and enrichment opportunities (education, social interaction etc.).

Beach Within Reach – 3 agency partners

The purpose of this initiative is to make our island beaches accessible to people of all ages and those with disabilities. In FY2026 we continued to monitor improvements in beach accessibility and released the "Accessibility Guide to Island Beaches" which is available on the HAMV website. (<https://www.hamv.org/>)

Programs

Home Safety Modification Program (Falls Prevention Coalition)

The Home Safety Modification Program for 60+ homeowners (or adults with disabilities) continues, receiving guidance from Martha's Vineyard Builders Association and partnering with local contractors. The program is referral based (from COAs, MVH, VNAs etc.) and includes conducting a home assessment for minor home safety renovations (i.e. grab bars, stair railings, improved lighting, etc.), matching the participant with a willing contractor to conduct the renovations, and providing a post-renovation assessment of the project. In FY2026, we were able to expand the program to begin providing wheelchair ramps as well using a "borrow and return" model to keep costs down. During FY 2026, 44 applications were received, and 36 homes were modified. Since the program's inception in late 2020, we have completed modifications at 210 homes, documenting savings in medical costs of over \$3.4 million dollars due to a reduction in falls post modification.



Matter of Balance (Falls Prevention Coalition)

Continuing to make available an evidence-based program, Matter of Balance, for those who have experienced a fall or who are in fear of falling after having fallen, in collaboration with the COAs, YMCA and healthcare providers on the island. HAMV is now the licensee for this program on-island, and our Associate Director has become a Master trainer to teach classes and train volunteer coaches. We organized two eight-week workshops during the year, identifying and training coaches, and conducted analysis on program impact. Participants report an almost 50% reduction in falls during and post MOB classes.

Transportation Programs (Older Adult Transportation Coalition)

In FY 2026 our Older Adult transportation programs provided over **10,000** rides to Older Adults on island.

Our Coalition goals for FY206 included:

- “Right size” the array of transportation options to optimize fit-for-purpose transportation solutions at the lowest cost per ride; address the mix of on-demand and scheduled solutions.
- Expand multi-rider solutions (via Community Shuttle program).
- Broaden funding sources and stabilize when possible.
- Increase the Council on Aging’s participation in addressing transportation needs of Older Adults.
- Make progress on developing an Off-Island Medical Transportation solution.

Our accomplishments in FY2026 included:

- MV Connect (a volunteer driver scheduled rides program) became a viable solution for scheduled rides (lowest cost per ride of all options) providing 810 rides.
- Reducing GoGoGrandparent utilization for on-demand rides only; effective introduction of monthly stipend solution providing 3,062 rides.
- Significant education/awareness of expanding transportation options by Mobility team.
- Increasing engagement with the Council on Aging addressing transportation needs.
- Transition of MVC4L Shuttle Program to new Community Shopping Shuttle Program providing 1,365 rides.
- MVC4L/Adult Supportive day program transportation provided 4,174 rides to and from the center.
- Chappy Connect provided 767 rides to Chappaquiddick’s Older Adults to connect them with destinations (primarily medical) on Martha’s Vineyard.





- New funding sources secured.
- Updated our “On the Go” Safe Rides for Older Riders transportation printed directory.
- Off-Island Medical Transportation solution identified for roll out in Oct 2026 (FY2027).

HAMV employed a grant-funded Mobility Management team, an island-wide resource to educate Older Adults of transportation options and support island agencies. In FY2026 our Mobility Manager completed 402 transportation consultations with Older Adults and participated in more than eighty in- person agency meetings providing education and support to our island agencies and their clients.

Call the Tech Pro (Digital Equity Coalition)

Healthy Aging Martha's Vineyard launched Call the Tech Pro program to bridge the generational digital divide for older adults on Martha's Vineyard providing support “where and when” it is needed. This comprehensive IT support initiative offers:

Drop-In IT Support Sessions: Weekly or bi-weekly 1–2-hour sessions at three local Councils on Aging, staffed by contracted IT specialists who are trusted community members. Older adults receive immediate assistance with smartphones, tablets, computers, and basic digital literacy needs without appointments. Over four hundred Older Adults attended these sessions in FY2026.

In-Home IT Support: Specialized visits for complex issues requiring home-based solutions (smart TV setup, network troubleshooting, printer installation) and homebound individuals who cannot access drop-in services. Almost one hundred home visits occurred during FY2026.

Computer Essentials:

A pilot program was introduced in partnership with Elder Services of the Cape and the Islands and the Oak Bluffs Council on Aging. This five-week in-person course provided a hands-on introduction to the basics of using a personal computer. Participants learned how to navigate a computer, safely use the internet, organize electronic files, send and receive email, and much more.

Advocacy, Planning and Research

- Increased advocacy efforts on behalf of Island agencies and Older Adults to raise awareness of Older Adult needs, to obtain funding, and demonstrate legislative support for key initiatives.
- Provided subject-matter expertise to community working groups and committees.





- Hosted a “Community Conversation on Ageism” to discuss creating an island where age is not a factor for discrimination. The guided dialogue program explored ageism—stereotyping and discrimination based on age—and how it impacts our Martha's Vineyard community.
- Contributed to regional, statewide, and national organizations/committees representing Martha's Vineyard's perspective on Aging Adult issues (e.g. Dukes County Health Council (DCHC), AARP Rural Labs, MA Healthy Aging Collaborative, Patient Family Advisory Council at MVH).
- Completed the second year of a two-year Vineyard Vision Fellowship to address community engagement/volunteerism opportunities and challenges for Older Adults. During the year, we introduced a new website <https://www.vineyardvolunteers.com/> to provide a coordinated way for Islanders to explore volunteer opportunities. During FY2026, 3,946 views of participating agencies sites occurred.
- Partnered with YMCA on a Healthy Agers Day at the YMCA, promoting “movement as medicine” offering Older Adults the opportunity to trial new activities (water aerobics, water volleyball, “sit to be fit” exercise classes, balance screening etc.) as well as attending classes on nutrition and aging journey topics.

If you are interested in learning more about what HAMV does and the impact we create in our island community, please contact Cindy Trish, Executive Director, at ctrish@hamv.org or (508) 618-5134.

Thank you for your interest and support.

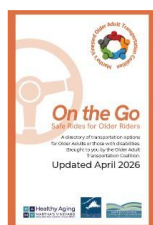


Community Islanders Voice their Appreciation for Our Transportation Programs:

Impact on Participants/Agencies/Community

Independence, Access to Healthcare and Food, Social Engagement

"One of the most difficult conversations I have with patients is when it is time to stop driving. The work you do...and this comprehensive transportation directory is incredibly helpful in this conversation."
MVH Physician



*"We did it" I just wanted to thank you for ALL of your assistance with rides last month throughout my daily radiation treatments in Falmouth. So incredibly helpful, I could not have done it without you. 42 ferries and 84 rides (some of those on the other side and some on this side on the TTA — but still!!!!) We did it!!! Yay!!! Thank you.
Older Adult Rider*

Rider and an MV Connect Volunteer Driver Having A Great Time



"GoGo got me safely and on time for all of my medical appointments. They were always courteous and kind. This service should go on for ever and ever." GoGo rider



Impact on Participants/Agencies/Community

"GoGo is the ONLY service that accommodates my situation; i.e. yesterday I had to go to the hospital for a 6 minute walk test which ended up taking two hours. How can I plan that with any other service?"



"Gogo has been so helpful to our patients here in the Internal Medicine Department. It has been a true lifesaver! They can book a ride to get to their appointment and we're able to easily call GoGo to get them a ride home. The best part of it all it's free! Many of our patients wouldn't be able to afford this service. Thank you for all you do!"
MVH



"I had surgery and needed to go to physical therapy up to four times a week and the service was there for me each time. It was lifesaving! I felt a sense of independence, and it gave me confidence to continue to go to physical therapy. I met some wonderful people in the process. I am driving now and couldn't have done it without the rides."



13



Community Islanders Voice their Appreciation for Our Home Safety Modification Program:



Testimonials

The team was very considerate of my needs and wants. It was all so professionally done. We thank you for the wonderful program. Thanks so much.

I was very impressed with everyone I dealt with. The modifications were done quickly and expertly.

For the first time since July, I was able to go up the 18 steps to my computer and rug hooking supplies! Safely. Free at last because of Healthy Aging service.

I am grateful for this service and highly recommend it!

7



Community Islanders Voice their Appreciation for Digital Assistance Programs:



Proud graduates of our **Pilot Computer Essentials Program** partnering with the Oak Bluffs COA and Elder Services of Cape & Islands

A Tech Pro session at the **Up Island Council on Aging** – aiding Older Adults and their best friends (who in this case looks very interested)



Sharing information with **Island Elderly Housing** residents on affordable internet programs

