

A Message from HAMV Director Cindy Trish



Greetings,

Island elders have made their voices heard, with 97% of those who responded to the HAMV Elder Needs Assessment Survey 2015 indicating that it was important or very important to be able to grow old in their own homes. HAMV embarked on a journey to understand how to make this a reality, recognizing the need for an island-wide turn-key "high-impact, low-cost" home modification option. We listened and learned from other rural communities who have tackled this so we could hit the ground running.

A grant from the MV Hospital Community Benefit Program has made it possible to undertake this pilot program, partnering with the MV Builders Association and a team of committed volunteers who have the expertise and passion to have a bold vision.

Pick up an application at your local Council on Aging, or call me.

Best,
Cindy

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Who is HAMV?

Healthy Aging Martha's Vineyard is a planning and advocacy organization whose mission is to create an Age-Friendly island, meeting the needs of the rapidly growing +65 population and those who care for them.

How does HAMV do this?

- By researching and educating the community on elder needs;
- Planning and advocating for new or improved services to meet these needs;
- Building community-wide support to make these services a reality.



For more information, contact Cindy Trish:

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HEALTHY AGING
MARTHA'S VINEYARD
Making Martha's Vineyard an Aging-Friendly Island

Home Safety Modification Pilot Program

What is it?

A pilot program to provide housing modifications to islander homeowners 65 years and older.

Objectives of the Pilot Program

Create an island-wide program that is scalable and cost-effective, collaborating with the island's agencies that serve elders, in partnership with the Martha's Vineyard Builders Association.

To qualify you must:



Live on Martha's Vineyard (including)
Chappaquiddick



Own your home or live in a home
owned by a family member

Participants must be 65 or older in age and complete an application which you can obtain from your local Council on Aging.

How the program works:

1. Identify potential participants;
2. Complete initial application form;
3. Site visit to determine project scope;
4. Work scheduled with a MVBA contractor;
5. Work completed by assigned contractor;
6. Follow up visit with the homeowner to discuss experience and satisfaction with the program.

Councils on Aging Contact Info:

Tisbury Council on Aging: 508-696-4205
Oak Bluffs Council on Aging: 508-693-4509 x3
Up-Island Council on Aging: 508-693-2896
Edgartown Council on Aging: 508-627-4368

HAMV Home Safety Modification Pilot Program Benefits

Comprehensive

Assesses the problems and provides a solution.

Low cost, high impact

Specializes in one-time, minimally disruptive but high-impact minor home improvements.

Individualized

Approaches assessment from the homeowners' perspective and provides personalized solutions customized to their daily routines, needs, and preferences.



PROGRAM FUNDING

Participants will pay on a sliding fee scale, based on income qualification.

In some cases, the total cost of the home safety modification will be covered.

Home Safety Modification Pilot Program

Modifications span from simple to more complicated:

- Traction or non-skid strips (installed bathrooms, kitchens and staircases)
- Transfer benches (showering benches or transfer chairs)
- Easy-use fixtures (over-sized light switches/over-faucet knobs)
- Climate controls (larger digital displays and/or remote controls)
- Lighting – interior and exterior
- Grab bars installation (bathrooms, toilets, showers, tubs)
- Smoothing floor surfaces
- Stairwell handrails
- Push-button door openers
- Pull-out shelves
- Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
- Threshold removal