



YMCA OF MARTHA'S VINEYARD  
Swartz Family Facility  
Noepe Aquatics Center  
Home of Alex's Place  
Martha's Vineyard Ice Arena

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May 29, 2021

CCMVHB

Laura Silber, Coordinator

Dear Ms. Silber,

The **YMCA of Martha's Vineyard** is dedicated to improving the quality of life for children, individuals of all ages, and families on the Island by helping our community members realize their fullest potential through the development of body, mind and spirit. It is our goal to help assist our 2873 active members every step of the way in a supportive and friendly atmosphere through; results-driven group exercise classes, cutting edge equipment, and state-of-the-art facilities. We strive to make the membership experience judgement free and approachable. But, to accomplish this level of community service requires diverse, experienced and technically skilled full and part time employees. We currently employ 29 full time and 58 part time staff, with an increase of 14 individuals during the 8 week summer camp program. As with many other island businesses, we are experiencing the impact in securing seasonal and full-time staff due to the lack of affordable housing on the island.

Without year-round affordable housing options for our work force, coupled with the increased cost of living, as well as, the salary level we can offer as a non-profit, we find ourselves in a precarious position for maintaining the high quality services our community has become accustomed to.

Therefore, I speak for the entire YMCA of Martha's Vineyard Board of Directors in endorsing the Coalition to Create the Martha's Vineyard Housing Bank and enthusiastically recognize their commitment to identifying year-round affordable housing opportunities for our island families.

Sincerely,

Jeanne M. Ogden  
President  
YMCA of Martha's Vineyard

Building Our  
Community Together