





community development partnership

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

Changing Lives and Building Community

Beth Wade has been involved with local causes supporting affordable housing for over a decade. The first way she became engaged was through a telethon with the Friends of Chatham Affordable Housing. She said, "It was their first fundraiser and ended up being quite successful. I was completely and utterly immersed and I've been involved in supporting affordable housing in one way or another ever since."

Some of the ways she has been involved include as a former member of the CDP's Resource Development Committee, as well as a current member of the Board of Directors and Chair of the Housing and Asset Management Committee. Beth has also had a significant role with a local organization supporting individuals who have been homeless or near to homeless, CHAMP Homes of Cape Cod.

Beth first started with CHAMP Homes as a volunteer, then became a Board Member and eventually Board President. In 2013 she joined the staff as the Director of Outreach and Marketing, and just over one year ago become the organization's Executive Director. CHAMP Homes provides a home for formerly homeless individuals, along with spiritual guidance and life skills training. They also advocate for neglected and marginalized people in our Cape Cod community.

Beth indicated she first got involved with CHAMP Homes because she recognized the significant need for housing for people coming off the streets and in fragile living situations. In her words, "CHAMP Homes provides that stable ground from which to step out and move forward, including giving back to the community."

When asked about the challenges she faces in her work Beth talked about the need to "break down barriers". "Many people don't understand who the people living at CHAMP homes are—they don't know their stories," she said. "To change misconceptions about individuals who have been homeless, people first need to understand who they are." And through her work, Beth is doing just that. "It's an honor for me to help people come into their best and recognize their potential," she said.

In conclusion, Beth reflected on how her work and involvement on the CDP Board are connected. She said, "It's a natural fit for me. My hope is that we can collectively come up with solutions around local challenges related to affordable housing and jobs."

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