



community development partnership

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

The Heart of Our Family



Before

“Xanadu”, as it has been lovingly named, is a place of great contentment for those who know it. Nestled in the hills of Truro, it has been a gathering place for one family for over five decades. As it does, however, time had taken its toll on the physical structure. With a furnace and windows almost as old as the house, as well as a leaky oil tank, the home was in a “desperate situation and getting worse” according to the owner, Valerie Falk. Retired and living on a fixed income, she wasn’t sure she’d be able to stay.

Seeking support, Valerie reached out to the Council on Aging in Truro. From there, things started to fall in place. After an energy audit with the Cape Light Compact and a furnace replacement through the state’s Fuel Assistance program (and with the help of Marcy Oil), Valerie was eligible for a forgivable loan through our Housing Rehabilitation Program. Through the program, all the windows (many of which they’d been unable to open for years), including the rotten wooden trim around them, were replaced. According to Valerie, “This program saved my home. I would have been gone without it.” And as a result, she anticipates her annual utility costs to be half of what they were.

Valerie was especially pleased with the guidance she received throughout the process from the CDP Housing Rehabilitation staff, as well as from the contractor, [Sprinkle Home Improvement](#). “All these people were so wonderful - they were extremely professional and I always felt like they were in my corner,” she said.

When reflecting on her home today Valerie concluded, “This home is the heart of our family—everyone wants to be here and now I can continue to share it with others.”



After

You can listen to more of Valerie’s story [here](#).

[Click here for the poem Kubla Kahn](#), about Xanadu, by Samuel Taylor Coleridge

3 Main Street Mercantile, Unit 7 Eastham, MA 02642
P 508.240.7873 F 508.240.5085 E contact@capecdp.org

www.capecdp.org

