November 2024



Dear Friend of HPC,

Let us tell you about Meverlee, who was living in a small, rented trailer in a campground with her school-aged son, wondering where she would live once the cooler weather arrived. Meverlee had steady employment as a home healthcare worker, but finding housing she could afford was impossible.

We're writing to you today because more and more people in our community are struggling to live here, like Meverlee. **This winter, many will be in unstable living situations.** According to the Cape Cod Commission, over 60% of Cape renters say they are worried they may not have stable housing in the next twelve months. They're also concerned about having enough money for food and other basic needs.

The impacts of the housing and economic pressures facing our community are extreme. Affordable housing is vanishing. Rents are rising rapidly. Our workforce is being driven to the brink of homelessness or being forced to move off Cape. We're losing the backbone of our economy, of our community.

**You can prevent this from happening**. Your donation will enable us to give people the tools, resources and guidance to find a stable home, become financially independent, and build a life here.

Meverlee was first referred to HPC by Provincetown Schools when her winter rental ended. HPC staff helped her apply for emergency housing everywhere she was eligible. Nothing was available. But Meverlee felt hopeful about Cape Cod – her son was thriving, there was plenty of work.

Meverlee's case manager at HPC suggested she apply for the REACH program to help with her professional goals. She agreed, with aspirations to get a driver's license and buy a car. Both would widen her ability to take care of her home healthcare clients, our fragile neighbors.

When she graduated from REACH, Meverlee used the program stipend to pay for driving lessons and the test to obtain her drivers license. A car would come next, but a housing problem still loomed. Meverlee's case manager at HPC continued to provide housing search support.

Meverlee and her son

please read on >>>

"I came to Cape Cod to make life better for my son, but I was having difficulty with housing. I was on the verge of giving up when HPC came into my life. I tell you this organization went all out for us, and fought day and night to achieve this goal. **Now my son and I have somewhere to call home**." Then, in October, Meverlee and her son were offered a year-round, affordable two-bedroom apartment on the Outer Cape. They moved in on November 1, just as the campground closed for the season.

Thank YOU. Gifts from donors like you helped Meverlee stabilize her life. The REACH program allowed her to become more self-sufficient, setting her on a path to becoming a traveling home health aide - an employee need so great on Cape Cod that there are an

estimated 500 seniors waiting for this critical service. And support from HPC's case manager helped her to find a safe, affordable place to live. She and her son are building a life here.

## Yet, there are so many more people like Meverlee.

On average, 2,000 people arrive at our door annually for help, many for the first time. We're especially seeing a surge in those aged 25-54 - our workforce, and the backbone of our economy - coming to us for help. They are trying desperately to remain here. They need your help. Meverlee receiving her **REACH** graduation certificate

HPC was fortunate to receive support from emergency resources, such as the American Rescue Plan Act, during the past few years. As those funding sources have ended, we still face the same increasing community need, but with less funding available.

We need to raise **\$300,000** by the end of the year to respond to this urgent need. Our annual appeal is the lifeblood of our agency. It's how we fund our core mission, operate a facility where clients can visit and get help. And it's how we make our services accessible day after day, year after year.

When you join us today, you become part of the solution. By enabling us to put prevention services in place, you can help us tackle challenges before they take root. Your gift is strengthening and protecting both our residents and our community. You're keeping our workforce stably housed and, on the Cape, now and into the future.

While you have our letter in your hand, please fill out the reply and mail it back or donate securely through our website. By doing so today, you are creating a community where everyone has a chance to thrive.

With gratitude,

Hadley Luddy Chief Executive Officer

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William O'Brien Chair, Board of Directors

P.S. Our workforce is leaving, and we need your help to keep them here. When you donate TODAY, you are keeping families here, in their own homes, or in new safe, stable affordable housing. You're empowering residents to become self-sufficient. And you're protecting our local workforce. Together, we can reach our \$300,000 campaign goal by December 31st.



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