



CAPE COD COUNCIL *of* CHURCHES

A Baby Center
Covenant to Care
Faith Family Kitchen
Hands of Hope
Homeless Ministries
Hospital Chaplaincy

July 22, 2024

Cape Cod Commission
P.O. Box 226
3225 Main St.
Barnstable, MA 02630
regulatory@capecodcommission.org

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to express support for the proposed family housing shelter at 1 Love Lane, Dennis, to be operated by Housing Assistance Corporation (HAC).

Every day, we live with the effect that the Cape's housing crisis is having on local families who struggle to afford a decent home. The cost of housing is overwhelming many people, including our local workers who are so central to our way of life. Organizations like The Cape Cod Council of Churches and HAC can be all that separate many families from a harsh life living on the street.

This is why the Council of Churches endorses the plans of Housing Assistance to merge their existing shelters into the centrally located and accessible building at 1 Love Lane. Families experiencing homelessness will be able to live with dignity and to receive the services they need to find a permanent home of their own.

We ask the Commission to hasten this project for the benefit of our neighbors.

Housing Assistance is proposing no exterior changes or expansion to the existing vacant building at 1 Love Lane. Nothing that they do to this structure or within it will have any adverse impact on the broader community. With this in mind, and with a commitment to social justice and serving the disenfranchised, we urge the Commission to determine that this project is not reviewable under the Dover Amendment, causes no adverse regional impact, and instead, offers a positive step forward for those families struggling with homelessness, and, indeed, for all of us.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Edye Nesmith
Executive Director