



26 June 2012

Chilmark Board of Selectmen

Chilmark Town Hall

401 Middle Rd.

Chilmark, MA 02535

To the Board of Selectmen:

I am writing to request your approval for an event at Beetlebung Farm on August 5<sup>th</sup> 2012. The event is **Sowing Seeds to TargetCancer: A Festival of Food and Music at Beetlebung Farm**, a unique opportunity to bring the Vineyard community together to enjoy the beauty of the farm while raising awareness and funds for the critical cause of rare cancer research. The event will take place from 5-8:30pm and will include food from the farm in a casual, barbecue style. Food will be donated by chef Chris Fischer and desserts by Liz Kane of Cakes by Liz. Music by nationally known folk band The David Wax Museum will also be provided. Approximately 200 tickets will be sold at \$100 for food and the concert. A family ticket price will be offered as well. Parking will be provided at the Chilmark Community Center, the Chilmark School, Chilmark Library, and Town Hall (we will also inquire at The Yard). Guests will be encouraged to use the MV Transit Authority.

TargetCancer is a 501c3 founded by my husband Paul Poth in 2009 while he was ill with a rare cancer. He was told that his cancer had no treatment protocols and that there were no research efforts being made to address this. As a result, he founded TargetCancer to support young researchers willing to perform innovative research into

these orphan diseases. This research does not need millions of dollars to make a difference. In fact, in just three years and over \$135,000 of grants, we have made significant progress on diseases that were otherwise ignored. Please visit our website at [www.targetcancer.info](http://www.targetcancer.info), and see the attached fact sheet for more detailed information about our work.

This event is especially meaningful to me because Martha's Vineyard is a place that I have loved for so long. I have visited since 1984, worked here for many summers, was married here, and then had the privilege to buy a cottage in 2010 after Paul died. The ability to be here on a regular basis has provided me and my five year-old son with a level of comfort and healing that has brought us both strength and happiness during these difficult years.

I have always heard about the incredibly close and strong Vineyard community. I have experienced this firsthand just in these two short years that I have owned my home here. The kindness, commitment and generosity that has been shown towards TargetCancer's work and this event is truly inspiring and so appreciated. As a result, I would also like to give back to the island cancer community by reaching out to the Martha's Vineyard Cancer Support Group to include them in this event. I am honored to have this opportunity to raise awareness of TargetCancer's work with the Vineyard community and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Kristen Palma

President, TargetCancer