

From: [Moore Paddy](#)
To: [Carroll Tim](#)
Subject: Invitation to Strategic Planning for Island Elders
Date: Wednesday, October 15, 2014 2:49:48 PM
Attachments: [RBA Invite-Planning Overview.docx](#)
[att21185.htm](#)

Dear Chilmark Board of Selectmen:

As community leaders who support/provide services to Island elders, you are invited to have your Town represented in a very important forum to develop an Island wide strategic plan to address the needs of our growing elder population and the resulting challenges to our housing, health, human service, transportation and social systems.

Over the last year, through participation in the Healthy Aging Task Force (HATF), the towns, county, and Island health and human service agencies have all shown a clear commitment to Island elders. However, as we all start the FY2016 budget cycle, we face the primary question: how can the six towns and numerous agencies best mobilize as a community to invest in supporting our elders? We need a mechanism for determining Island-wide funding priorities for projects supporting elders that require fiscal support from six towns. We also need a way to set Island wide goals for elders, and to identify responsibility for achieving those goals across multiple entities.

Fortunately, a mechanism exists to help do exactly that: Results Based Accountability (RBA). RBA is a proven approach to strategic planning used by groups in the US and around the world . including recently by the Vineyard's Island Wide Youth Collaborative. RBA has led to improvements in the quality of life in communities, and the performance of programs, agencies, and service systems. (see the attachment for more details).

The HATF is sponsoring the development of a community-wide strategic plan for addressing the needs of Island elders using the RBA approach. The plan will be developed by the organizations/agencies that fund or provide services to Island elders and Senior HATF Management. Participation is limited to 35 people. You are invited to select one of your Board members to represent the Town of Aquinnah, or appoint another person with authority to represent the town. Joyce Bowker, Director of the Up-Island Council on Aging, has also been invited.

The RBA planning process requires 3 days of meetings over three months. These meetings will occur on October 21st, November 11th, and December 9th at the Public Safety Building in Vineyard Haven from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. We know this is an unusually demanding schedule, but our challenges are significant. We are asking your participation for all 18 critical hours. If unfortunately one of you can't attend, please send an alternate who will have the authority to represent your Town's interests through the complete process.

HATF leaders will follow up this letter to answer any questions you may have. We hope very strongly that one of you will make the time in your busy schedule to bring your thinking to this effort, and commit to community planning over the next three months.

Please RSVP to Paddy Moore at the email address above or address below.