

Up-Island Council on Aging Renovation Proposal

The Howes House needs repair, renovation and upgrade to address a variety of issues. The building has structural issues that must be addressed. Furthermore, it is not fully accessible to all abilities. Finally, it is no longer functional for its current or future programming and staffing needs.

What would a renovated and improved space mean?

- Staff offices that are better suited to meeting with clients and their family members that would provide space, privacy, confidentiality, as well as providing unobstructed sightlines to the remaining areas of the building
- More dependable and user-friendly elevator that is up to current codes and standards.
- Safer access into the building from the parking lot.
- The ability to bring more programming and services to the agency without being incumbered by the lack in space or space appropriate to the use
- Private rooms for appointments and meetings of confidential or medical nature.
- Easily accessible restrooms on all levels where programs and meetings would be held.
- A safer, more appropriate space designated for fitness programs.
- An upgraded commercial kitchen that would allow for preparation of meals on site, cooking programs, and the like

Up-Island Aging Population

***Percentage of town Population aged 60 and over.**

Aquinnah: 42.4 % (495 total residents, 210 aged 60+) FY 19 60 discreet users/ FY 20 50

Chilmark: 45% (1,326 total, 598 aged 60+) FY 19 290 discreet users/ FY 20 305

West Tisbury: 43.6% (3,030 total, 1,323 aged 60+) FY 19 523 discreet users/ FY 20 578

Participation we are seeking from the other towns

- West Tisbury will pay for the design phase, but we want Chilmark and Aquinnah's committee participation in that phase
- Three towns to pay 1/3 each for actual construction costs
 - *The very preliminary cost estimate at this moment is \$8M. This is NOT a hard number but for conversation only.*
- Looking for a clear commitment within 30 days as this materially affects how we move forward
- Looking for help in engaging the public from all three towns for community input