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**Cc:** [Dilly Deblase](#); [Keira Lapsley](#); [Christine Skidmore](#); [Michelle O'Connor](#)  
**Subject:** Chilmark Community Center/ ventilation/ air conditioning  
**Date:** Monday, August 29, 2022 11:10:22 PM

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Dear Town of Chilmark:

We separately wrote you about the urgent need to upgrade the lighting at the Center after a summer of heavy and successful use. In addition to all of the summer camp programs that utilized the Center hall, we had our administrative office, infirmary and snack bar inside the building. We also ran a very full adult exercise program in the Center, an Author Series with 6 sold out talks, and two sold out fundraisers featuring major stand up comedians.

While we are lucky to have this wonderful large hall, there is an urgent need to improve its ventilation system. After each event, I am grateful that no one expired or that no one stormed out in anger over the terrible conditions. It feels that we are on borrowed time in the space. The two home sized ceiling fans are inadequate for a hall that holds almost 300 people. The exhaust fan system is too loud to run while holding any activity in the hall involving people speaking and listening. Considering our increasingly warm summers and our aging population, an air conditioning system is a matter of urgency. A cooling system is needed for fitness classes, for town meetings, for early voting, for the author series and, most importantly, to welcome community members in a comfortable setting. With its large windows, the room would also benefit from an industrial sized ceiling fan so that air conditioning is not always needed.

We understand that this investment has previously been approved by the Town. We hope that you can follow up and implement it this winter. We would be happy to help in any way that we can and we would appreciate the opportunity to be consulted on the design decisions.

Thank you and best wishes,

Suellen Lazarus/ CTAC Board