



# COUNTY OF DUKES COUNTY

## Martha's Vineyard & Elizabeth Islands



### Dukes County Social Services

FY19 and FY20 budget differences

#### FY19

In FY19 we proposed hiring a full time (35 hours) caseworker as a regular employee with benefits, and that position was in the budget at a salary of \$45,054 with payroll expenses and health insurance adding up to \$37,802 for total of \$82,856. The total program budget is \$83,500. With grants of \$33,500, the balance paid by the 6 Island Towns for DCSS services is \$50,000.

However, instead of one benefitted employee we decided to hire 3 PT employees: 2 Caseworkers who work an average of 18 hours/week and 1 Program assistant who works 12 hours a week. This has proven both effective at handling the caseload as well as economic, since we are not paying for health insurance and other payroll expenses. We were also able to augment our homeless prevention services by adding 400 hours for case management for homeless individuals and families (@ \$8,000) and 10 hours per week for 15 weeks social work assistance at the winter warming shelter (@\$2000).

#### FY20

We propose continuing the same staffing and project funding for the Social Services Department to make the best use of Town funding and provide the maximum level of service to low income and vulnerable Islanders who are experiencing food, fuel and housing insecurity.