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***Celebrating the Opening of New Vineyard House  
Sober Living Community***

**Vineyard Haven** – Vineyard House, which provides safe and sober housing for people in early recovery from drug and alcohol abuse, will celebrate the opening of its new residential campus with a ribbon-cutting on Friday, Dec. 19.

Members of the media and the public are invited to participate in the ceremony, which begins at 11 a.m. and will be followed by a reception and tour. The new campus is located at 45 Short Hill Road In Vineyard Haven.

The opening comes just eight months after ground was broken on the Island's first purpose-built sober living community. The expansive new campus, built by Squash Meadow Construction from plans by Mashek MacLean Architects, can accommodate up to 18 men and 7 women in separate men's and living quarters. There is also an administration building with a conference room named for deceased board member Pat Gregory that will be available for a variety of community needs, as well as an area for 12-Step meetings and related use.

"We are thrilled to be able to show the Island community what we have built," said Mark Jenkins, president of the Vineyard House board. "This is the culmination of years of efforts by a group of dedicated volunteers committed to a single idea: that Vineyarders recovering from addiction need a safe and healthy place to begin reintegration into their community."

Vineyard House has provided housing for men and women in early recovery since 1997, but until now residents have been spread among three older houses in different parts of Oak Bluffs. Over eight years, Vineyard House was able to raise enough capital through generous support from a variety of donors and proceeds from the sale of its existing houses to build the new campus without incurring any debt, said Mary Nada, chairman of the Capital Campaign Committee.

"Vineyard House addresses the Island's most pressing health problem – addiction," she said. "Because it is an issue that touches so many families – Islanders and seasonal visitors alike – we've received incredible support for this project, and we are grateful for it."

Residents of Vineyard House are required to pay rent, hold down a job, attend support group meetings, maintain the houses, and submit to regular and random drug and alcohol testing.

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