

Hi Wanda,  
This is the email I sent on July 17, and no one responded.  
Thank you for listening today,  
Tara

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**From:** Tara Kenny <[tara@illuminationgroup.com](mailto:tara@illuminationgroup.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 17, 2023 8:03 PM  
**To:** Terri Keech <[terri@housingauthoritymv.org](mailto:terri@housingauthoritymv.org)>  
**Cc:** [affordhouse@westtisbury-ma.gov](mailto:affordhouse@westtisbury-ma.gov) <[affordhouse@westtisbury-ma.gov](mailto:affordhouse@westtisbury-ma.gov)>; [info@ihtmv.org](mailto:info@ihtmv.org) <[info@ihtmv.org](mailto:info@ihtmv.org)>  
**Subject:** Who exactly is managing the WT accessory apartment program these days?

Hello.

I'd like to know who to go to with questions, as I hear that the Affordable housing office Dukes County Regional Housing is no longer managing the accessory apartment program.

- Who is managing it?
- What is the contact email and telephone?
- Listed rental rates of the Housing Authority website are still 2022? Supposed to be updated and posted July 1st.
- Income rates listed on Housing Authority site are still 2022.
- The 2022-23-rental-assistance-rates.pdf does not reflect the "Split utilities rate" which was added after I was on an agenda at the Howes House roughly in 2007. That category seems to have disappeared from that sheet - but I do see it on the Word doc, so thanks for that -

#### **2022/23 Guidelines for West Tisbury Accessory Apartment Rentals**

- Suggest you move this page out to have its own navigation - way too buried in an already confusing website.

<https://housingauthoritymarthasvineyard.org/document/>

- **What's this I see about adding tax benefits to landlords providing affordable housing with accessory apartments? I'd love more info.**
- Please email all landlords providing Affordable Housing via Accessory units when pricing/rental rates have been updated, July 1st

Lastly, we/ I submitted a lease for 2023 for our tenant on May 15/16 for Rhonda Morgan who we LOVE, and who qualified for rental assistance in 2021, but now the Affordable Housing office says she doesn't qualify despite the fact that she makes less than she did last year - so I don't really understand the logic, but I would like to. Can you explain why she doesn't qualify if she makes less than she did last year? Please show us why.

We have not increased the rent this year, 1 - because we love her, and 2 - the rates on your websites were still at 2022 rates when we wrote a new lease.

- Please update the rates and all info to 2023 across all your websites and please make the process easier for everyone. It needs to be way more transparent.
- Please make the process and information readily available to all landlords with accessory apartments. If the process was easier and friendlier toward landlords, word would get around and there would be a whole lot more potential landlords coming forward to offer accessory apartments. Right now, I know 5 landlords who haven't a good word to say about the organizations involved, and I can also say the process is one big mess.

I am however, extremely happy that after 18 years in our home, I see that you added some somewhat positive wording.

Accessory apartments (AA) provide extra income for property owners while helping to alleviate the affordable housing shortage. They can add value to your home and allow tax benefits. They can ease the load of maintaining a large house.

And on the HUD site, they say...

In addition to increasing the supply of affordable housing, ADUs benefit homeowners by providing extra income that can assist in mitigating increases in the cost of living.

That wording comes as a HUGE relief to see, since I have been told numerous times by someone at the AHO (name revealed upon request) that the program is not there to enable us to have a house we cannot afford. I find that behavior and attitude is entirely repulsive. No one helped us buy or pay anything toward this house and we do a community service by providing affordable housing. Landlords who provide affordable housing SHOULD get some tax benefits - where are they please.

Sincerely,  
Tara Kenny

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