

Martha's Vineyard Youth Leadership Initiative
Letter of Support
Farm Neck Foundation

October 24, 2014

Dear Members of the Farm Neck Foundation,

Recently I have become involved with the Martha's Vineyard Youth Leadership Initiative. Over the years I've been impressed with MVYLI youth who have spoken at MVRHS School Committee meetings including Isabella El-Deiry and Mary Ollen.

The commitment this group makes to Vineyard youth and the Island community at large is significant. I write today and respectfully ask you to consider supporting their fine work.

What makes MVYLI so unique: the Initiative welcomes students from all walks of life, and those who choose all paths. This group of students represents what makes our island.

MVYLI exposes students to opportunities for learning and career interest, and encourages members to be good stewards of our Island and the world in which we live. Their recent beach cleanup, and upcoming college visits are two examples of students at work, taking care of our community and investigating a world beyond our shores.

As part of their program, the MVYLI presents scholarships to each and every graduating senior who participates in their year-round program. At Awards Night, each student is recognized for his/her efforts of giving to this Island community, and in turn, is rewarded with a small scholarship and an enormous round of applause.

This year MVYLI is expanding its successful Job Shadow Day Program to a year-round program: **MVYLI's Career Mentoring & Workforce Readiness Program**. Their proposal is sound.

In recent years, as a member of Farm Neck, I stand proud of the donations the Foundation has chosen.... supporting the YMCA with annual donations, as well as other far-reaching programs that support many students and have lasting impact. I see the fine work of the MVYLI as of the same caliber and quality.

I thank you in advance for considering Martha's Vineyard Youth Leadership Initiative and its need for support.

Sincerely,

Lisa Reagan

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