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For Immediate Release

**QUEENS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SECURES $2 MILLION IN FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS FROM SEN. CHARLES SCHUMER, REP. GRACE MENG AND FORMER REP. CAROLYN MALONEY TO HELP LOCAL SMALL BUSINESSES**

***Funding was included in the 2023 government spending package that passed Congress in late December and was signed into law by President Biden***

***Funding will support legal services for small business, with a focus on immigrant-owned businesses, and the growth of the tech sector in Queens***

QUEENS, NY (January 5, 2023) - Thanks to the work of Senator Charles Schumer, Representative Grace Meng and former Representative Carolyn Maloney, the Queens Chamber of Commerce will receive $2 million in federal appropriations as part of the 2023 government spending package. This Community Project Funding will support programs that provide legal services to Queens-based small businesses, and the growth of the tech sector in the borough.

“Queens is so fortunate to be represented in Washington by some incredibly talented public servants, who fight to make sure we get our fair share,” said **Tom Grech, President and CEO of the Queens Chamber of Commerce**. “This funding secured by Senator Schumer, Representative Meng, and former Representative Maloney will help the Chamber deliver valuable resources to Queens’ diverse small business community, and support the continued growth of the tech sector in our borough.”

The funding includes $1 million from Representative Grace Meng for the Chambers Small Business Legal Desk support program, which assists immigrant and small businesses in Queens with legal services; and $500,000 each from Senator Charles Schumer and Representative Maloney to invest in expanded incubator spaces and programming to tech businesses throughout Queens, and the establishment of the Queens Angel Fund.

The Chamber and the [Queens Tech Council](http://queenstechcouncil.com/) recently launched the Queens Tech Incubator initiative with locations in the Rockaways and Jamaica, with plans to expand to Flushing, Long Island City and Forest Hills. In 2023, the Chamber and the Queens Tech Council plan to launch the Queens Angel Fund to attract investment dollars for Queens-based start-ups, completing the circle of home-grown talent with world-class investment.

“The Chamber thanks Senator Schumer, Representative Meng, and Representative Maloney for their unwavering support for small businesses. We look forward to continuing our partnership to ensure Queens-based small businesses have the resources they need to power our economic recovery,” Grech added.

**About the Queens Chamber of Commerce:**

The Queens Chamber of Commerce is the oldest and largest business association in Queens, representing more than 1,400 businesses and more than 150,000 Queens-based employees. Its mission is to foster connections, educate for success, develop/implement programs and advocate for members’ interests. [www.queenschamber.org](http://www.queenschamber.org/)

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