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February 14, 2022

Congressman Jim McGovern
Washington, DC Office
370 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman McGovern :

I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Queens Together, which is based in New York's 12th Congressional District that I am privileged to represent. Throughout the pandemic, Queens Together has been a vital resource and partner for the communities it serves.

Queens Together is a non-profit organization of independent restaurants that addresses food scarcity by providing income to food businesses, their workers and others in the community; building partnerships with local organizations and volunteer networks; and delivering meals for people facing food insecurity across Queens. In November 2020, when an entire New York City Housing Authority building in my district underwent a months-long cooking gas outage, Queens Together secured crockpots, dry goods, and personal protective equipment for the tenants. Queens Together has demonstrated a constant commitment to the communities it serves throughout the pandemic. I strongly believe Queens Together can provide a blueprint for how New York and our country can leverage mutual aid groups, the existing food infrastructure, and government support to address food insecurity.

I was pleased to co-host an awards ceremony with Queens Together this past October where I had the honor of presenting certificates of recognition to Queens Together, its key members, and many of its partner organizations for their steadfast dedication to feeding the people of Western Queens throughout the COVID-19 pandemic and facing the crisis with strength and optimism.

Queens Together has also worked with us on infrastructure issues affecting businesses and community members in Western Queens. It organized two lunches with various elected officials, agency heads, and community leaders at which we were able to collaboratively discuss the problems our communities face and work towards solving them head on. Queens Together has worked directly with my staff throughout the pandemic, connecting small business owners in my district who have issues obtaining Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) and Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL) with the relevant caseworkers in my District Office.

Queens Together has served our community with compassion, dedication, and ingenuity. I am proud to give my enthusiastic support to Queens Together and the terrific work they do. If you have any questions do not hesitate to reach out to Taylor Abbruzzese in my District Office at 212-860-0606.

Very truly yours,

CAROLYN B. MALONEY
Member of Congress

CBM/klf

Please Reply To: 1651 Third Avenue, Suite 311, New York, NY 10128-3679