

#### **New Chamber Members and Renewals**

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development (MPCCCD) welcomed three new businesses as members in October and November, and has over 200 current members. Please help us welcome the Victory Center of Riverwoods, US Air Force and Wintrust Financial Corporation on their membership and partnership with the MPCCCD.

We also want to give special thanks to the six businesses that renewed memberships in October and November, and continue to participate in networking events, information sessions and provide feedback and surveys to help the chamber connect them with the resources and solutions needed to support and fuel economic growth in our community. Please join us in thanking and supporting these businesses, they are Melrose Park Currency Exchange, Playas Nayaritas, Proviso Community Bank (Wintrust), Sahara Asian Elderly Care, Thatcher Oaks Awning Co. and Winston Brands.

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development now has over 200 members and the list continues to grow each month. If you are not currently a member of the MPCCCD, please reach out to Isaac Bazbaz, executive director, via email at ibazbaz@mpcccd.org or call (708) 343-9500 and he will schedule a time to meet with you to discuss the benefits of partnering and working with our chamber.

For information about membership, please visit the chamber website Membership page at https://mpcccd.org/benefits-dues/.

### **Shop Melrose Park this Holiday Season**

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development encourages you to shop and eat local this holiday season.

We all hear the messaging "Shop Local" and "Shop Small" every holiday season and those appeals are critical to support the businesses in Melrose Park that do so much every day to fuel our local economy and provide jobs to people that live in and around Melrose Park. We understand that online shopping and even ordering meals are transactions that are often done online, but we encourage you to visit and shop our local businesses whenever possible. Even doing an in-store pickup of an online order helps the local business to get the sales credit for your transaction.

Thank you in advance for shopping Melrose Park. Have a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy holiday season!

# Learn More About the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development!

If you are not getting emails from the MPCCCD about events, training or technical assistance offered for certifications, grant applications, etc., sign up for our newsletters at https://mpcccd.org. You can also follow the chamber on Facebook or LinkedIn to stay current on chamber activities!

To schedule an appointment to learn more about the chamber or to get information on membership, please reach out to Isaac Bazbaz, executive director, via email at ibazbaz@mpcccd.org or call (708) 343-9500 and he will schedule a time to meet with you.

### **Our Businesses to Resources**

On Oct. 24, the MPCCCD partnered with Hinsdale Community Bank, Wintrust Community

Bank, Joseph Business School, the SBA and the SBDC to host an event to help connect entrepreneurs and small-business owners to resources and information to help fuel growth in their business.

The event included two panel discussions with the first focused on sustainability and long-term growth, and the second covered traditional and nontraditional ways to access capital to fuel growth.





Thank you to Wintrust Community Bank for hosting an outstanding event and for inviting the MPCCCD to partner and help promote this event, and for their efforts to connect businesses to resources to help them meet and exceed their business goals.

## Strengthening Business Relationships through **In-Person Networking Events!**

On Nov. 21, the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development hosted its final quarterly Chamber After-Hours Networking Event for 2024, which was attended by over 40 local business owners, managers and community leaders.

Isaac Bazbaz, executive director of the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development, said "Our goal with these networking events is to create opportunities for local businesses to connect, share ideas and support each other. Tonight's turnout and the enthusiasm we've seen are testaments to the vibrant and collaborative spirit of our community." Chamber members continue to enjoy these networking opportunities for free as part of their annual membership dues.

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development is committed to hosting events that promote networking, professional growth and community engagement. This After-Hours Business Networking Event was a significant step toward fostering deeper connections within the business community of Melrose Park.



Although dates for the 2025 After Hours Events have not been

finalized, they will be announced and communicated on the website at https://members.mpcccd.org/events/ or you can call (708) 343-9500 to learn more about future events and initiatives.

Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce • 900 N. 25th Ave. • Melrose Park, IL 60160 (708) 343-9500 • www.mpcccd.org