

MELROSE PARK CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

New Chamber Members and Renewals

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development welcomed two new members in February and March. The MPCCCD also had a record number of membership renewals over any two-month period with 27 businesses deciding to continue to support the chamber and to continue to participate in networking events, information sessions, technical assistance and provide meaningful feedback and survey responses to help us connect them to resources and information they need to support their businesses.

Please join us in welcoming Keyla Kiddie Kollage and Partnership Financial Credit Union as the two newest members of the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce. We also want to give a special thanks to the 27 businesses that renewed memberships in February and March. They are Above & Beyond Black Oxide, Inc.; Alpha and Omega Learning Center; Alpha and Omega Outreach Ministries; Aseret Development Series, LLC; Chick-Fil-A; Development Services Corp; Diana Ibarra State Farm Agency; Elite Electric Co, Inc.; Forza Construction & Consulting Group, Inc; Glen Una Investment and Management Company, Inc.; Guerine & Company Inc.; IHop Melrose Park-#1289; Iskali; La Flor Michoacana; Lincoln Technical Institute; MACID, Inc.; Maywood School District 89; Melrose Park Public Library; Missionary Sisters of St. Charles; Municipal Solutions Group, Inc.; Pan American Bank & Trust; Precision Repair Inc.; Re/Max Sylvana Menolascino; Tom's Steak House; West 40; West Central Municipal Conference; and Windy City Auto Spa.

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development has over 225 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 lbazbaz@mpcccd.org or call (708) 343-9500 and he will schedule 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/>.

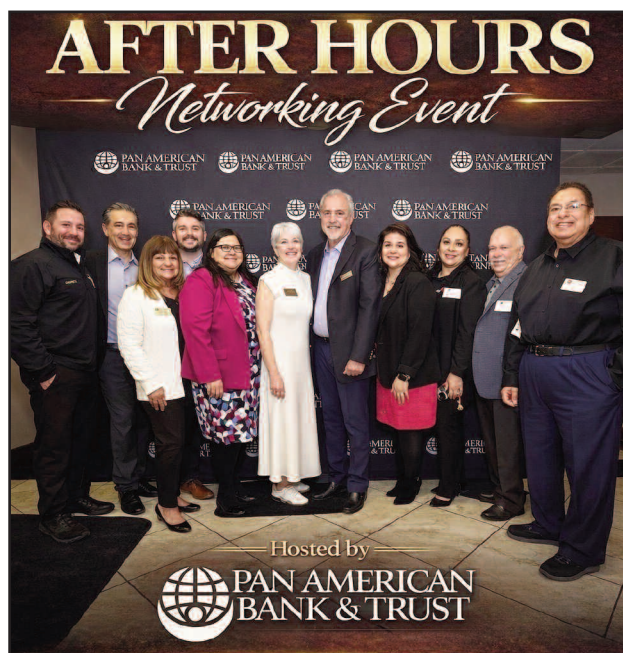
Connecting Businesses to Businesses and Other Resources!!!

Pan American Bank Hosts Chamber After Hours

On Feb. 26, the MPCCCD held its first quarterly Chamber After Hours Networking Event of 2026. The evening was hosted and sponsored by Pan American Bank and was attended by over 50 business and community leaders that were able to enjoy conversation with old friends, make new connections and identify potential customers. A special thanks to everyone for attending and for helping us to grow the chamber and most importantly for helping us to fuel growth in our community!

Thank you to Pan American for hosting and for their continued commitment to investing in our local business community.

When businesses and organizations connect, Melrose Park grows.



Monthly Business Breakfast

On March 26, the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce hosted its monthly business breakfast and seminar, and welcomed Diana Alfaro from the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) to provide information regarding existing grants and special loan programs available to businesses and nonprofit businesses. During the program, Diana touched on a broad list of programs available through DCEO at <https://dceo.illinois.gov>, but went on to talk about programs available through Cook County and even a number of private foundation grants available to both for-profit and not-for-profit businesses.

MPCCCD Executive Director Isaac Bazbaz welcomed over 40 business leaders to the event and thanked Ms. Alfaro for her annual presentations at the MPCCCD Business Breakfast



Seminars and most importantly for all of her assistance over the past four years, and the Melrose Park Chamber has helped local businesses obtain over \$5 million in grant support with awards ranging from \$5,000 to \$150,000 with most of the awards going to small businesses with less than 20 employees.

Upcoming Events, Training and Information Sessions

One of the primary functions of the MPCCCD is to connect businesses to resources to help support growth and to make a difference in the community. Although this takes many different shapes and approaches, one of the primary efforts is to host monthly training events, informational meetings, networking sessions and participating in community events.

May 2026 – Chamber After Hours Networking Event

Although the date and location have not yet been finalized, the Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce and Community Development will host its quarterly networking event in May. The Chamber After Hours are quarterly events and present opportunities to reconnect with business and community leaders in the area, as well as to meet new contacts, potential vendors and potential customers.

Watch your email or follow the chamber on Facebook to stay updated on the date and time for this information session. You can also visit the MPCCCD Event Calendar at <https://mpcccd.org/events/>.

May 2026 – Coffee with the Chamber

In May, the chamber will begin a new event that we are calling Coffee with the Chamber. These events will feature guest speakers and will initially focus on security and safety for your business, employees and customers. Coffee with the Chamber events will be held at various local member businesses.

Although the date and time of the first Coffee with the Chamber event has not been finalized, we are happy to announce that Chick-fil-A has offered and will be hosting the event in May.

Watch your email or follow the chamber on Facebook to stay updated on the date and time for this information session. You can also visit the MPCCCD Event Calendar at <https://mpcccd.org/events/>.

June 24, 2026 – Food Safety and Sanitation

The Melrose Park Chamber of Commerce is partnering with Triton College and will be hosting a Food Safety and Sanitation Program. This program will be facilitated by a certified ServSafe® instructor and the training will be held in Melrose Park at the MPCCCD offices located at 900 N. 25th Ave. There will be a certification test provided at the end of the class. The ServSafe® course meets the Illinois Department of Public Health certification requirements.

Registration for this program will open later in May and communication will be targeted to include businesses in the restaurant and hospitality sectors.

Please mark your calendars and save the date for this program. Note – Registrations will be limited to a total of 25 participants for this program.

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.