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****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

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DROMM, FERRERAS, DENDEKKER HOLD FUNDRAISER
FOR LOCAL CRIME VICTIM

Jackson Heights, NY, November 16, 2010 -- On Sunday evening at the Jewish Community Center of Jackson Heights, New York City Council Members Daniel Dromm, Julissa Ferreras and New York State Assemblyman Michael DenDekker hosted a fundraiser for Victor Mejia de los Santos, a pizza delivery person who was brutally beaten after being set up for a robbery in Jackson Heights on Friday, November 5th.

The 28-year-old Mexican immigrant, who supported his family on the small income he made, has been in critical condition at Elmhurst Hospital. Elected officials including New York City Comptroller John Liu asked the Jackson Heights community to join them in a show of support to raise funds to help pay for Mejia's medical expenses and lost income.

"I am saddened and appalled by the heinous attack that took place in our neighborhood," said New York City Council Member Daniel Dromm (D-Jackson Heights). "Victor Mejia de los Santos is an honest worker trying to earn an honest living and pursue the American dream. That is why we are moved to try and help the Mejia family get through this very difficult time."

Nearly 75 concerned neighbors attended or dropped by the Jewish Community Center of Jackson Heights over the course of the evening to make donations. By the end of the event, close to \$3,000 was raised.

"Mr. Mejia is a hard working immigrant whose family depends on his meager salary for survival," said Council Member Ferreras. "I urge everyone who can contribute even a dollar or two to do so."

"The community continues to come together in support of Victor Mejia de los Santos and his family, and he is in our thoughts and prayers for a speedy and complete recovery," said Assemblyman DenDekker. "The violence that was perpetuated against Victor is not what our community is about. But the support that has been shown toward Victor and his family is about the best of Jackson Heights and East Elmhurst. When you live and work in this community, you are a part of this community. When you cause harm to one, you cause harm to all."

Anyone wishing to contribute can stop by any TD Bank branch and make a check or cash deposit to the Victor Mejia Fund (account number: 4249506431).

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