



NEW JERSEY SENATE

ROBERT W. SINGER

SENATOR, DISTRICT 30
DEPUTY MINORITY LEADER
SenSinger@njleg.org

COMMITTEES

SENIOR REPUBLICAN MEMBER
HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES
& SENIOR CITIZENS
MEMBER, TRANSPORTATION
LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT

PARTS OF MONMOUTH-OCEAN COUNTIES

1771 MADISON AVE.
SUITE 202
LAKEWOOD, NJ 08701
(732) 987-5669
FAX: (732) 901-0567

1987 HWY 34
BLDG. C, SUITE 202
WALL, NJ 07719
(732) 974-0400
FAX: (732) 974-2564

March 10, 2026

The Honorable Chris Smith
U.S. House of Representatives
2373 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Smith:

I am writing to express my strong support for CHEMED's request for Community Project Funding for the renovation and expansion of the lower level of its River Avenue site in Lakewood into additional pediatric exam rooms, together with related site and parking improvements.

CHEMED has long served as a critically important healthcare provider for residents of my district. As New Jersey's largest Federally Qualified Health Center, CHEMED plays an essential role in delivering comprehensive, accessible, and high-quality care to a rapidly growing population, including many low-income and medically underserved families.

This project addresses a clear and urgent community need. Lakewood has experienced extraordinary population growth in recent years, and nearly half of its residents are children. The Township's exceptionally high birth rate and growing number of young families have placed significant pressure on existing pediatric healthcare infrastructure. Expanding CHEMED's pediatric capacity at its River Avenue site will help ensure that children in Southern Lakewood and the surrounding areas can access timely well-child visits, immunizations, primary care services closer to home.

I understand that this funding would support the build-out of 23 additional pediatric exam rooms in approximately 5,300 square feet of unfinished lower-level space, creating durable healthcare infrastructure that will benefit the community for years to come. This expansion will improve access, reduce wait times, and strengthen preventive care capacity in one of the fastest-growing communities in our region.

Please give this important request your full and favorable consideration. Thank you for your continued advocacy for the needs of the residents of Ocean and Monmouth Counties and for your support of healthcare access in our district.

Very truly yours,



ROBERT W. SINGER, Senator
New Jersey 30th Legislative District

OCEAN COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
TOMS RIVER, NEW JERSEY 08754-2191

Commissioner
Sam Ellenbogen



(732) 929-2003
Email:
CommissionerEllenbogen@co.ocean.nj.us

March 11, 2026

The Honorable Chris Smith
U.S. House of Representatives
2373 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Smith:

We are pleased to offer our strong support for CHEMED Health Center's request for Community Project Funding to renovate and expand the lower level of its River Avenue site in Lakewood into additional pediatric exam rooms, along with related improvements to safely accommodate increased patient volume.

Ocean County has experienced significant population growth in Lakewood, creating increased demand on healthcare and social service infrastructure. CHEMED has been an essential community partner in meeting these needs, providing preventive, primary, and specialty care to tens of thousands of residents each year, including many vulnerable children and families.

The River Avenue site has become an important access point for residents of Southern Lakewood, where transportation barriers can make nearby care especially critical. The proposed project will convert unfinished space into 23 pediatric exam rooms, significantly expanding pediatric capacity in a medically underserved area with a large and growing child population.

This expansion will help reduce wait times, improve access to immunizations and well-child care, and strengthen early identification and treatment of health concerns among children in our community.

We respectfully urge your favorable consideration of this request. Thank you for your continued service and attention to the healthcare needs of our region.

Warm regards,

Sam Ellenbogen
Commissioner, Ocean County



Township of Lakewood

MUNICIPAL BUILDING
231 THIRD STREET
LAKEWOOD, NEW JERSEY 08701
732-364-2500



March 12, 2026

The Honorable Chris Smith
U.S. House of Representatives
2373 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Smith:


I am pleased to express my strong support for CHEMED's request for Community Project Funding to renovate and expand the lower level of its River Avenue site in Lakewood into additional pediatric exam rooms, together with related site and parking improvements.

CHEMED is one of the most important healthcare institutions serving Lakewood residents and has consistently responded to the needs of our rapidly growing community. As you know, Lakewood has experienced extraordinary population growth over the last decade, including a substantial increase in the number of children and young families. This growth has created increasing demand for accessible pediatric care and placed real pressure on existing healthcare capacity.

CHEMED's River Avenue site was strategically established to serve Southern Lakewood, where many families benefit from healthcare access close to home. The site has already become a vital resource for the surrounding neighborhood. Completing the lower level build-out to create 23 additional pediatric exam rooms would significantly strengthen CHEMED's ability to serve children in this area and would represent a meaningful investment in the health and wellbeing of Lakewood families.

I urge you to give this request your full consideration and support. Thank you for your continued advocacy for Lakewood and for your commitment to helping meet the needs of our residents.

Sincerely,



RAYMOND G. COLES
Mayor of Lakewood

