

Washington, DC -- U.S. Representative Michael A. Arcuri (D-Utica) and U.S. Senator Charles Schumer (D-NY) announced that they have secured \$425,000 in congressionally-directed funding for renovations to St. Elizabeth's Medical Center in Utica.

"This is terrific news for St. Elizabeth's and another critical hurdle to clear in the appropriations process," **said Schumer**. "Beyond ensuring top-notch health care for the entire Utica area, the medical center's expansion will serve as an economic boost for the region, creating local jobs and promoting community development across Oneida County."

"I am pleased to announce that we are able bring your tax dollars back home to improve health care delivery services and maintain a high quality of life in Oneida County," **said Arcuri**. "Modernizing and renovating the St. Elizabeth's Medical Center Emergency and Trauma Center is a necessary step to keep our health care infrastructure world-class and ensure the highest quality of life in our area. This project will help grow our local economy by creating over 100 local jobs, both construction and clinical. I will continue to help local communities and work at the federal level to improve health care and foster economic development."

The \$425,000 will be used by St. Elizabeth's Medical Center in Utica for the expansion, modernization, and renovation of St. Elizabeth's Emergency/Trauma Center and Kitchen Cafeteria. The total capital project cost is \$13,129,432. The project will provide over 100 local jobs during the building process and a net gain of approximately 20 clinical jobs at the hospital.

A two-story addition will be constructed in an adjacent ambulance yard at the southeast corner of the Medical Center's main building. The first floor will contain approximately half of the new Emergency Department while a new kitchen facility will occupy the second story. The old kitchen will be renovated for the second half of the new emergency department and the old emergency department will be converted to a new cafeteria and serving area.

The funding secured by Arcuri and Schumer is part of the Fiscal Year 2008 Labor, Health and Human Services Conference Report, which passed the House last night.

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