

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Indo American Chamber of Commerce USA Celebrates Historic Launch with Ribbon Cutting Ceremony in Detroit

First Indian American Chamber office in Detroit marks new era of business collaboration and community engagement

**DETROIT, MI – June 14, 2025** – The Indo American Chamber of Commerce USA (IACC-USA) celebrated a milestone evening with the grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony of its first permanent office in Detroit. The groundbreaking event brought together business leaders, elected officials, and community members to mark a new chapter in strengthening the Indian American business diaspora.

The ceremony featured remarks from founding members who outlined their vision for the chamber's role as a strategic business resource hub.

#### **Founding Member Commitments Drive Vision Forward**

Avinash Rachmale, who graciously donated the Detroit office space, emphasized the chamber's mission to serve as "the business resource hub by bringing all strategic stakeholders together for the business community at the city, county, state and federal levels."

Manoj Sachdeva committed his time and resources to "help energize the business community that has constantly been sidelined, because the strength of Indian Americans lies not in individual success, but in our collective power when we unite our diverse talents."

Vinod Panjawani spoke passionately about "youth enrichment and engagement as the next generation of innovators that will keep the ecosystem going."

Ashwani Narula addressed the importance of collaboration, stating that "it's important for all businesses to work together and support one another - the ecosystem needs to be talking to one another," particularly emphasizing start-ups and innovation.

Joining virtually, Anil Sakhuja shared insights on membership strategy, noting that "it's key to put value on the table and then make the ask."

### **Community and Government Support**

The event drew notable support from local leadership. Kyle Anne Johns, Senior Vice President of Independent Bank, assured continued support and "encouraged businesses to be in Michigan as it's a wonderful place to live, work and have a family."

Farmington Hills Mayor Theresa Rich "spoke highly of the Indian American community and was thrilled to be part of a vibrant community who have made Farmington Hills a true melting pot."



In a surprise appearance, the Deputy Consul General from the Consulate of India in Chicago performed the official ribbon cutting and "spoke about all the contributions made by Indian Americans in the United States," providing compelling statistics on Indian American trade and commerce while congratulating the team.

Sunny Reddy, elected member of Wayne State University's Board of Governors, "fondly recollected his college days in the city of Detroit" and expressed his support for the chamber as "very significant and critical for the business community to thrive and develop."

#### **Diverse Leadership Present**

The ceremony also welcomed Sheriff Chris Swanson of Genesee County, Novi City Council Member Priya Gurumurthy, Troy City Council Member Hirak Chanda, Miindia President and Founder Anand Kumar, President of SAAVI Chandru Acharya, and numerous established business entrepreneurs from the community.

## **Youth Engagement Takes Center Stage**

Highlighting the chamber's commitment to next-generation leadership, youth members from a local organization SILAMBU, participants in the IACC-USA youth mentorship program, were recognized for their innovative ideas and business initiatives.

"Tonight's launch represents more than just opening an office – it's about creating a lasting foundation for our business community to thrive," said Anu Gopalakrishnan, Executive Director of IACC-USA. "We're building bridges not just within our community, but with strategic partners like MAPAAC (LEO - State of Michigan) and other organizations who share our vision of economic empowerment and collaborative growth. Together, we're creating an ecosystem where businesses can flourish, and our next generation can lead."

The IACC-USA aims to strengthen business networks, provide resources for entrepreneurs, and serve as a bridge between the Indian American business community and broader economic opportunities across Michigan and beyond.

For membership information and upcoming events, visit <u>www.iaccus.org</u> or contact Executive Director Anu Gopalakrishnan at <u>anug@iaccus.org</u>

**About IACC-USA** The Indo American Chamber of Commerce USA is a 501 C 6 nonprofit founded in 2003 and is dedicated to fostering business growth, entrepreneurship, and community engagement within the Indian American diaspora while building bridges with the broader business community.

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Media Contact: Anu Gopalakrishnan Executive Director, IACC-USA www.iaccus.org

Email: <a href="mailto:anug@iaccus.org">anug@iaccus.org</a>
Phone: 248-880-4022