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\$300,000 in Grants for Women-Owned Restaurants Announced

*MA Conference for Women & Restaurant Association Team Up to Support
Women Business-Owners Affected by COVID*

BOSTON, Oct. 27th, 2021—In response to ongoing pressures on restaurants-owners across the Commonwealth due to COVID, the Massachusetts Conference for Women and Massachusetts Restaurant Association (MRA) have announced \$300,000 in new funding to support women-owned restaurants.

This is the second consecutive year the organizations have teamed up to support women-owned restaurants. In 2020, they distributed \$330,000 to help restaurants pay rent and employees, adapt their business model, or meet other restaurant needs.

The 2021 initiative will provide \$5,000 grants to more than 60 restaurants. Apply at [MassWomanRestaurantGrants \(https://tinyurl.com/syjbk6y\)](https://tinyurl.com/syjbk6y)

The Massachusetts Conference for Women is a nonprofit, non-partisan organization dedicated to advancing women in the workplace.

Chef Joanne Chang, owner of Flour Bakery owner of Boston's Flour Bakery and Café, praised the grants, saying: "This support from the Massachusetts Conference for Women recognizes the importance women-owned-restaurants have in our communities and lives."

Gloria Larson, Massachusetts Conference for Women Board President, observed that millions of women were forced to leave the workplace during COVID and added: "As a community of women supporting women, we are proud to offer these grants to women entrepreneurs who are doing the vital work of nourishing our communities."

Grant recipients will be notified quickly, according to Bob Luz, president and CEO of the Massachusetts Restaurant Association. The application process, he added, is also a simple one.

The grants are made possible through the support of the sponsors and attendees of the Massachusetts Conference for Women. The Conference is part of the nation's largest network of women's conferences, with annual events in Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, California, and Texas that attract more than 50,000 people.

About the 2021 Massachusetts Conference for Women & Career Fair. The 17^h annual Massachusetts Conference for Women will be held virtually on Dec. 2nd. It will feature keynoters Selma Blair, Regina King, Jay Shetty, and Chloé Zhao. The Conference will also host a free virtual career fair on Dec. 1st to help women who lost their jobs due to COVID get back to work.

Tickets are available at <https://www.paconferenceforwomen.org>.

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