Washington, DC -- Congressman Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) this week met with Meredith Pochily of Conklin, New York to congratulate her on writing New York's winning essay in the 24th Annual National Peace Essay Contest sponsored by the United States Institute of Peace.

Each year, the Institute selects a question that relates to its prevention and reconciliation work in zones of conflict around the world. Meredith's essay, "Going Transparent: Rebuilding Trust and Reducing Corruption in Afghanistan and Liberia," addressed the intersection between governance, corruption and conflict.

A photo of the meeting follows.