Farmingville, NY – On August 9, Councilwoman Jane Bonner was on hand to support the 2nd Annual Jake Engel “Hoops for Hope” basketball tournament at Cedar Beach in Mount Sinai. The fundraiser is a friendly basketball tournament designed to bring together a community that has been hit hard by the heroin epidemic, to raise money for a scholarship in Jake Engel's name, and to raise money for Hope House Ministries. The fundraiser was established in 2015 after Jake Engel’s death from a heroin overdose. Pictured left to right are Bob Engel (Jake’s father), Councilwoman Bonner and Geoff Engel (Jake’s brother).

Councilwoman Bonner said, “The heroin epidemic has hit every Long Island community hard, rich and poor alike. There are too many tragic stories of lives cut short like Jake’s and that’s why I support his family’s efforts. We all need to join the fight and do whatever we can to generate awareness and help combat this terrible problem.”

At this year's event, over $4,500 was raised and will be used to start up and provide for a scholarship in Jake Engel’s name. The majority of the donation will then be given to Hope House Ministries. To learn more about Hope House Ministries, go to www.hhm.org.