

Councilman Panico Speaks at Unveiling of the The Association for Mental Health and Wellness

posted on 7/24/2014 11:28:10 AM



July 24, 2014

Farmingville, NY - On July 23, Deputy Supervisor/Councilman Dan Panico attended and spoke during a special event held in Ronkonkoma to unveil the new organization named The Association for Mental Health and Wellness. The Clubhouse of Suffolk has partnered with the Mental Health Association of Suffolk County, and the Suffolk County United Veterans to form an unprecedented partnership, which is an innovative and groundbreaking collaboration in the delivery of mental health services and advocacy in Suffolk County.

"On behalf of the Town of Brookhaven, although we were standing 100 yards inside of the bounds of the Town of Islip, it was very nice to speak and offer my words of congratulations to this newly formed partnership that has renovated and repurposed what was once a blighted property," commented Brookhaven Town Councilman Panico. "Mental health issues have been thrust to the forefront as we encounter and diagnose more and more individuals and families looking to address the needs of loved ones. I am glad that this organization is here to help and especially to meet the needs of our veterans."

Clubhouse of Suffolk was borne of the advocacy of a dedicated and visionary group of family members who, in 1990, gathered in support of their loved ones' dreams for a successful and productive life beyond their experiences with the mental health service system. Since these heartfelt beginnings, they have grown into an organization that helps over 1,200 people each year to define and reach their own personal vision of recovery for a meaningful and satisfying life.

The Mental Health Association in Suffolk County, Inc., established in 1955 as a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization, is dedicated to improving the mental health of all people in the community by means of support services, education and advocacy, and through cooperation with other public and private agencies having similar goals.

While the individual histories of each of the merged organizations date back over 25 years, they are now looking toward the future. By sharing and strengthening resources that help those facing psychiatric disabilities as well as those experiencing mental health issues for the first time, plus an enhanced focus on serving our Veterans, they will be able to better serve all of Suffolk County's residents.

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