Program helps children entering foster care

**Farmingville, NY** - The Town of Brookhaven's Youth Bureau and Holtsville Internal Revenue Service Center ended their annual "Totes for Tots" drive on March 31. The program, which is designed to help children entering foster care, is run by the Brookhaven Youth Bureau's INTERFACE program. During the month of March, residents and IRS employees dropped off new and gently used duffel bags, large backpacks and small suitcases that will be filled with coloring books, crayons, stuffed animals, a blanket, toothbrush and toothpaste and other items. These bags are then given to displaced children who are being moved to foster homes to help with the packing of their belongings, rather than having their possessions placed in bags.

Pictured front row, left to right in the lobby of Town Hall, are Youth Bureau staff members Amy Gironda, Josephine Lunde and Lizabeth Derkevics. Back row, left to right are Supervisor Ed Romaine, Councilman Dan Panico, Councilman Kevin LaValle, Councilwoman Jane Bonner and Councilman Neil Foley.

To learn more about the Brookhaven Town Youth Bureau's INTERFACE Program, visit www.brookhaven.org or call 451-8011.