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LUPINACCI, RAIJA EXTEND SUPPORT FOR “JUST LIKE ME” PROGRAM



Assemblyman Chad Lupinacci (left) is joined by Just Like Me Program Director Rob Goldman (center) and Assemblyman Andrew Raia (right).

Assemblymen Chad Lupinacci (R,C,WF,I-Huntington Station) and Andrew Raia (R,I,C-East Northport) recently visited the “Just Like Me” program. The “Just Like Me” program has launched its “I matter” initiative, a social impact art campaign empowering teens and young adults by offering them ways to be heard in their community. The program uses art to help young people realize their self-worth through self-awareness, empathy and pride.

“The ‘Just Like Me’ program and the “I matter” initiative are outstanding programs to empower our young people,” said Lupinacci. “Providing them with an interactive drug education and addiction prevention program is critical to help them continue down the right path when they face peer pressure and other temptations. The program’s use of younger recovering addicts is an especially great way to make the connection for high-school students, who may feel their teachers can’t relate. I want to thank Rob for his commitment to our young people, along with Huntington High School and all the other local schools who are involved in the program.”

“Men like Rob Goldman and programs like ‘Just Like Me’ are exactly what troubled youth of Long Island need to have a chance at a successful and fulfilling life,” said Raia. “Many of these kids could do anything with their lives, they just need to apply themselves. Perhaps with assistance from community-and-privately sponsored programs like this, we can see the shining potential of all of these individuals.”

“Just Like Me” was inspired by Rob Goldman, a Huntington resident whose two sons attend Huntington High School. More information on the program can be found by visiting <http://www.justlikemeproject.org/>.