Senator Lee Zeldin
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SENATOR
LEE M. ZELDIN
EXCELSIOR

PFC
JOSEPH DWYER
PROGRAM

HELPING OUR HEROES IN NEED

SENATOR LEE M. ZELDIN SECURES STATE FUNDING TO ESTABLISH NEW PROGRAM TO AID LOCAL VETERANS

Upon taking office last year, Senator Lee M. Zeldin established the John P. Jennings Veterans' Advisory Panel to help him create legislation for our veterans and their families here at home and throughout New York State.

Made up of dozens of veterans and veterans' organizations, the panel immediately began examining legislative and programmatic initiatives that could help countless veterans suffering from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI).

As a result of their hard work and dedication, Senator Zeldin was successful in securing funding in the 2012-2013 State Budget for a new veteran peer support pilot program. This will serve as an intervention mechanism to provide assistance to those suffering with PTSD and TBI throughout Suffolk County.

Named in honor of Suffolk resident PFC Joseph Dwyer, this first-of-its-kind program in New York, will allow veterans with similar combat and re-integration issues to benefit from joint participation and peer-to-peer assistance. This will become a model for future programs across New York State and the nation.

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Senator Lee M. Zeldin with family members of PFC Joseph Dwyer and the John P. Jennings Veterans' Advisory Panel at the announcement of the new peer-to-peer pilot program for veterans' suffering from PTSD and TBI.

"Infantryman John P. Jennings and PFC Joseph Dwyer both suffered from PTSD following their deployments to Iraq. Like them, thousands of veterans from all generations come home facing untold suffering and anguish. This new program is vitally important to our heroes returning home from combat. It will assist each of them in need with a lifeline to help overcome the struggles they face and re-integrate back to life at home within their community."

--Senator Lee M. Zeldin