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## *NEWS FROM THE 11<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT*

### **BARRAGA: HELP FOR VICTIMS OF ABUSE**



*Shown L-R; Suffolk County Legislator Tom Barraga (R-West Islip) and Pamela C. Johnston Executive Director VIBS*

Suffolk County Legislator Tom Barraga (R-West Islip) had the pleasure of meeting with Pamela Johnston, Executive Director of Victims Information Bureau of Suffolk, Inc. (VIBS).

Abuse can take many forms: verbal, emotional, physical and sexual it is about power and control. Domestic violence is the single most common cause of injury to women in the United States and children who grow up in violent homes are five times more likely to grow up as victims or abusers. VIBS was founded in 1976, as one of the first private not-for-profit agencies whose mission is to assist survivors to prevent crimes through education and services, and to raise community awareness of the need for justice and compassion.

It happens to many people and leaving the abusive relationship can be very difficult. For help call VIBS 24 Hour Hotline – 631-360-3606. For more information or if you would like to contribute please call 631-360-3730 or visit [www.vibs.org](http://www.vibs.org).