On Sunday January 18th The First Tee of Nassau County received The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Service award from the Congregational Church of South Hempstead. The award is given to an individual or group that creates a positive impact in the lives of others through their community involvement. It was presented to program directors Mike Wade and Justin Koff at the Congregational Church of South Hempstead during their annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King celebration.

The Church first became involved with The First Tee in 2011 when lifelong participant Callen Williams asked if he could hold a class for church participants to fulfill a merit badge in Boy scouts. When the session had ended participants enjoyed the program and wanted to continue learning the game of golf. The Nassau County facility has held program for the church ever since.

Although Callen could not attend the ceremony, he wrote:

“I wanted to say congratulations for the award you are being presented with today. I also wanted to say thank you for everything you've done, and how you've been involved
in it. The First Tee has been a very big influence in my life. It has taught me life skills that I've used both on and of the golf course. You've taught me patience, perseverance, honesty, and confidence. These were just a few of the values you've have taught me and this is why I believe you deserve the award.”

Best,
Callen Williams

On behalf of The First Tee of Metropolitan New York we would like to thank the Congregational Church of South Hempstead and the Williams family for the recognition of our Nassau County facility and hope that they continue to take part in the program for years to come.

Mike Wade.