



TeamstersCare/Teamsters Local 25 R.A.F.T. Program

TeamstersCare recognizes that in today’s complex world, the meaning of “health” goes well beyond issues covered by traditional medicine. One particular concern, substance abuse, affects our entire community, threatening the health of Teamster members and their families.

R.A.F.T. was established in November 1972 when a small group of recovering alcoholics, all members of Teamsters Local 25, founded the **Referral and Follow-up Team (R.A.F.T.) Program**. Acting anonymously and under their own direction, **R.A.F.T.** volunteers focus on helping fellow members help themselves in the struggle against alcoholism and drug abuse. 50+ years later, the Program continues stronger than ever, supported by the efforts of volunteer Teamsters and the absolute commitment of President Thomas G. Mari and the Board of Trustees.

R.A.F.T.’s TeamstersCare mission is to provide members with the immediate support of fellow Teamsters as part of a transition to the broader-based assistance of Alcoholics and/or Narcotics Anonymous.

Because the first step in this kind of treatment is often the toughest, **R.A.F.T.** offers help in a number of ways.

R.A.F.T. volunteers reach out to union members who have been:

- Hospitalized for detox or rehabilitation
- Referred to the Program by employers who see evidence of a problem on the job, or

- Referred by a Business Agent or other Union Official.

Members who suspect or recognize a problem in themselves are welcome too. **R.A.F.T.** volunteers spend time getting to know each

member personally, and share ideas about what’s likely to work (and not work) based on their own experience. Volunteers accompany the member to **R.A.F.T.’s** regular Wednesday night

and/or Saturday morning meetings. One immediate goal is to introduce the member to Alcoholics or Narcotics Anonymous. Through every step of this process, **R.A.F.T.** volunteers stay the course—as partners, colleagues, and friends.

R.A.F.T. meets at 7:00 p.m. every Wednesday in the Day Room at the Local 25 Union Hall, 544 Main St, Charlestown, MA, and 9:00 a.m. every Saturday at the TeamstersCare Stoughton Facility at 1214 Park St, Stoughton, MA.*

If you think you have any kind of problem with any kind of substance, come to a meeting and talk with other Teamsters. There’s a good chance you’ll find help for yourself. There’s an equal chance you can help somebody else.

*No meetings in July and August.

“... **R.A.F.T. PROVIDES MEMBERS WITH THE IMMEDIATE SUPPORT OF FELLOW TEAMSTERS...**”