



SHEET METAL WORKERS'

LOCAL UNION No. 28 FUNDS AND PLANS

METROPOLITAN NEW YORK AND LONG ISLAND

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October 15, 2016

To: All SMART Local Union No. 28 Members and Their Families

Re: SMART Member Assistance Program (MAP)

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The Trustees of the Sheet Metal Workers Local Union No. 28 Welfare Fund are pleased to announce a new level of service for alcohol and substance abuse and mental health issues through SMART MAP. The program is designed to help our Union Brothers and Sisters and their families who are experiencing difficulties with these and related problems. With the crisis of alcohol and opiate abuse facing our nation, the SMART International Union, SMART Local Union No.28 and the Local 28 Welfare Fund have instituted this program to combat this epidemic.

Today's SMART MAP program offers assistance and support to our members, living the true meaning of "union family". We believe that the therapeutic value of one Union Member helping another Union Member is without parallel. Compassion and a deep understanding of a member's situation, makes for a powerful combination that cannot be offered by any other professional.

SMART MAP members are union members who are trained and have the basic skills necessary for crisis intervention. There are three distinct areas in which SMART MAP can play a vital role:

- **Early Intervention** — SMART MAP recognizes the signs and symptoms of a variety of substance abuse and related disorders. SMART MAP will offer "emotional first aid" and develop a proactive intervention plan to help members deal with the problem.
- **Understanding Member Benefit Plans** — SMART MAP will be able to identify appropriate effective resources and direct members to help within the member's eligible health plan. The SMART MAP also has a network and the ability to augment a member's health plan with other supporting social services when necessary.
- **Follow-up** — SMART MAP will be able to support the member when returning back to work and to assist in coordinating the member's aftercare plan for a successful continuation of their recovery.

Leading the program here in Local 28 is member, Bill Salvatore, who has been doing assessment and referral as a Peer Counselor for many years. Bill has been working with the SMART International Education Director, helping to set up this program, and can be reached at (917) 709-7464 or at Billkis@local28funds.com. Eric Meslin, Business Agent, and Sal Starace, Business Agent, are also trained SMART MAP members and can be reached at the General Office, (212) 941-7700.

SMART MAP is a totally confidential, peer to peer program. Members can, but are not required to go through SMART MAP to access providers. Beacon Health/Value Options will still manage our alcohol and substance abuse and mental health benefits.

We are very excited about the possibilities this new program holds for the quality of life issues of our Brothers and Sisters and their families.

Fraternally,
The Board of Trustees
Sheet Metal Workers' Local Union No. 28 Welfare Fund

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