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Shawmut launches Mental Health & Wellness Leadership Group during Safety Week

May 19, 2023 - Construction Design & Engineering



CEO Les Hiscoe, chief safety officer Shaun Carvalho, and executive vice president of the New England region Kevin Sullivan toured the MIT Metropolitan Warehouse adaptive reuse renovation project as part of Safety Week.

Boston, MA Shawmut Design and Construction, a leading \$1.3 billion national construction management firm, hosted its 14th annual Safety Week, focusing on physical and mental health, safety, and well-being. The week consisted of 731 events and training sessions held across 133 locations, including Shawmut's jobsites and 11 offices around the country.

The week kicked off with the launch of Shawmut's Mental Health & Wellness Leadership Group, which already consists of more than 50 people, across functions, dedicated to identifying programs, initiatives, and paths to address the mental health crisis in the industry. Shawmut also introduced an online suicide awareness training that's available to all employees.

Shawmut's commitment to sending everyone home both safely and improved was reflected in the events and trainings throughout the week – from substance use disorder and certified mental health first aid trainings, to talks on resiliency and suicide prevention, to fall protection and fire safety trainings. This awareness is critical as more construction workers die each year from suicide and overdose than every other workplace-related fatality combined.

CEO Les Hiscoe gives a Toolbox Talk at Shawmut's MIT Metropolitan Warehouse adaptive reuse renovation project.

"There are 60,000 people on our jobsites each year, with all different backgrounds, perspectives, and life stressors that form their experiences on-site each day. It's our job to provide them with both physical and mental health resources, along with support and empathy, so they feel physically and psychologically safe," said Shaun Carvalho, chief safety officer, Shawmut. "I am proud of everyone's engagement in our Safety Weeks events and trainings this year, leaning into some uncomfortable topics that will make us stronger and better as we work to address the mental health crisis the construction industry continues to face."

Safety is a top-down and bottom-up business imperative that's embedded into Shawmut's culture and core values. As a 100% employee-owned company, this drives buy-in and engagement from each and every employee. It also drives results – Shawmut has seen a 78% decrease in lost workday incident rates since 2018.

Shawmut has a reputation for completing extremely complex and logistically challenging projects for the most high-profile clients in the industry.

As a 100% employee-owned company, Shawmut has created a culture of ownership, proactive solution-making, and forward-thinking. Eighty percent of its business comes from repeat clients, proving there is a strong focus on building lasting partnerships. Shawmut has offices including Boston, New York, Los Angeles, Miami, Providence, West Palm Beach and Las Vegas.

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