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## **Building Trades Employers' Association (BTEA) Northeast will host its 4th Annual Recovery Week**

April 19, 2024 - Front Section

Boston, MA Led by the Building Trades Employers' Association (BTEA) Northeast and its subcontractor members throughout New England, building trades unions, general contractors, developers, and vendor partners will come together to combat substance use disorder (SUD), build mental wellness, and educate both labor and management about viable recovery and mental health resources. The 4th annual week will include opportunities for training, education, and powerful stories of recovery from Legendary Boxer Sugar Ray Leonard and Professional Football Tight End Darren Waller.

"In our 4th year, we are encouraged by the outreach we have received to-date, with recovery support evolving into a year-round effort." said Tom Gunning, Executive Director of BTEA Northeast. "But we are still in the middle of a crisis and it is imperative that we come together to break the cycle. We want to ensure that our workforce can receive the support they need to work in a safe environment and in good health."

The 4th Annual BTEA Recovery Week will include the following events: all are open to the media.

Monday, April 29: Opening Night featuring the following guest speakers:

Sugar Ray Leonard, Legendary Boxer  
Darren Waller, Football Tight End

Tuesday, April 30: Women's Wellness featuring Gail Brenner Nastasia, Gloucester, Massachusetts native, author and recovery advocate.

Wednesday, May 1: SUD & Mental Health Trends featuring Lori McCarthy, LADC, CAI, Executive Director, and Partner of Herren Wellness

Friday, May 3: Multi-state standdowns in Boston, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut in collaboration with WS Development, Turner Construction, and the New England Laborers' Tri-Funds to commemorate the lives lost to the opioid and mental health crisis.

Legendary Professional Football Captain Matthew Slater will join the Boston, MA standdown.

"This week, and the work being done throughout the year, is critical to ensuring that our brothers and sisters receive our full support in tackling the challenge of substance use disorder," said Shawn Nehiley, general vice president of the Ironworkers International. "I am a firm believer that when we show up and work together, we can do anything including combating this crisis."

New this year, and in response to the Biden-Harris Administration's White House Challenge to Save Lives from Overdose as part of President Biden's Unity Agenda efforts to beat the overdose crisis, BTEA will unveil a year-round effort to provide complimentary Narcan and mental health training to subcontractor members and their employees.

Find more information about Building Trades Recovery Week at: [Building Trades Recovery Week | BTEA Northeast](#)

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