

Leslie Russell, LICSW LADC LAP-C

Leslie Russell is a clinical social worker and the Program and Development Manager of TeamstersCare's Employee Assistance Program. TeamstersCare is the health and wellness arm of Teamsters Local 25, a greater Boston union representing more than 11,500 members in Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire.

Russell has been with Teamsters Local 25 for the past 12 years. The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provides mental health and substance abuse assessments, referral and follow up services. She is instrumental in successfully getting members or their family into treatment and advocating on their behalf.

Prior to Teamsters Local 25, Russell was in private practice. She has also worked as a social worker at Strongest Link AIDS Services for a decade, as a substance abuse counselor at Essex County House of Correction, as a caseworker for the Veterans Administration and at Lynn Community Health Center, with a focus on HIV/AIDS and geriatrics.

Russell was honored by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters in 2015 with the Barbara Liddy Advocacy Award, given to a Teamsters sister that exemplifies community activism. She is passionate about many of Local 25's causes, including autism and the opiate crisis. This summer the EAP team hosted an addiction and recovery evening where members heard from those in recovery. She is an active member of the Teamsters Local 25 Women's Committee, donating time to the Magical Moon Foundation, a retreat for children who have cancer and their families, and spearheading a donation program that for the second year will send approximately 300 care packages this holiday season to U.S. military members stationed overseas.

Russell also volunteers at the Boston Marathon each year, working in the medical tent along the course providing mental health services as a triage team member. In the recovery community, she helped start a yoga 12 step recovery group in Salem. She believes in models of treatment that enhance one's sense of hope, self-confidence and being in tune with one's body -- "The issues are in the tissues" (Nicki Myers).