Teamsters Local 25 Autism Fund awards more than $350,000 to 11 Local Autism Non-profits

*Melmark New England receives $75,000 donation*

CHARLESTOWN – May 24, 2019 – Teamsters Local 25 president Sean O’Brien recently presented more than $350,000 to 11 local autism non-profits, including Melmark New England, an Andover-based human services organization that serves the needs of children and young adults with autism spectrum disorder, and other intellectual and developmental disabilities.

“Local 25 is proud to have raised several million dollars these past several years for local, regional and national autism organizations,” said O’Brien. “Melmark New England has changed the lives of thousands of individuals and families affected by autism, and we’re proud to support their mission.”

“Melmark New England is humbled and honored to receive this most generous $75,000 contribution from Teamsters Local 25 President Sean O’Brien, Local 25 members and all those who supported the 2019 Autism Gala,” said Rita M. Gardner, president and CEO. “We are proud to count the Teamsters as long-term partners who are dedicated to championing our mission to enhance the lives of individuals with autism, intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families. We look forward to their continued friendship, a shared commitment to our vision, and their ongoing support that helps ensure Melmark continues to be Mission First. Every Individual, Every Day.”

In its 12th year, the Teamsters Local 25 Autism Fund has raised more than $7-million since its inception. Its major fundraiser is the annual Teamsters Local 25 Light up the Night Gala, which took place this year on March 23. The Gala serves as a major autism awareness vehicle as well as a critical fundraiser for local programs that help children, teens and adults with autism or developmental delays.

To learn more about Teamsters Local 25’s commitment to autism, please visit [www.teamsterslocal25autism.com](http://www.teamsterslocal25autism.com).

To learn more about the programs and services of Melmark New England, please visit [www.melmarkne.org](http://www.melmarkne.org).

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