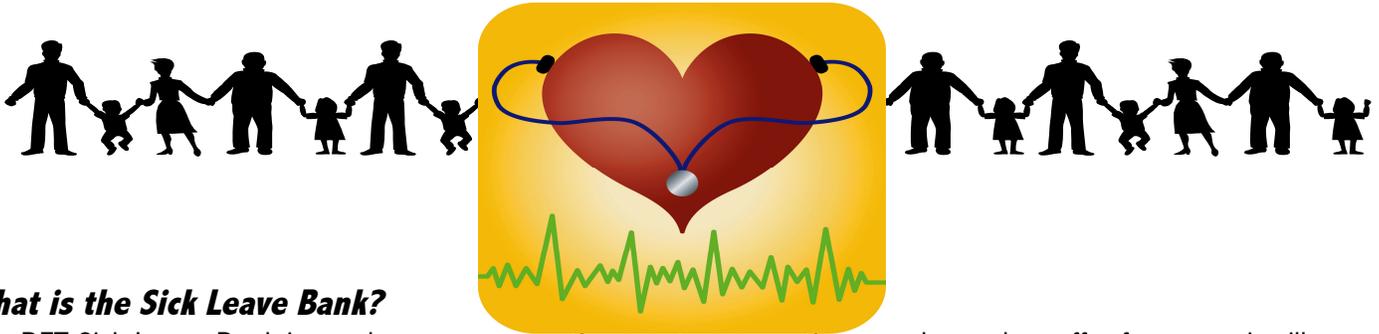# Announcing Open Enrollment
for the BFT Sick Leave Bank
October 1 – October 31, 2013

What is the Sick Leave Bank?
The BFT Sick Leave Bank is a voluntary, cooperative way to ensure that members who suffer from a major illness or accident can be paid for workdays they miss, even if they have used all of their own accumulated sick leave.

When you join you agree to donate one sick leave day per year for three years, and you become eligible for up to 40 days from the Bank if needed. You cannot receive donations or donate days to colleagues in need if you are not a member of the Sick Leave Bank. The Sick Leave Bank is an exercise in mutual aid and strength through unity!

How do I join?
Open Enrollment in the BFT/BUSD Sick Leave Bank will take place from **Tuesday, October 1st through Thursday, October 31st** *(the same time period as Open Enrollment for BUSD benefits).* You can join by completing the enrollment form you have received in your box and returning the form to the BFT office in via email or postal mail no later than October 31st. (<u>If you use district mail please email us to confirm receipt</u>.)

What if I'm not sure if I have already enrolled?
You can consult with your BFT Site Rep who has a list for your site.

How many days must I contribute to be a member?
New members contribute one day per year for three successive years.

Can I contribute more than 3 days?
Yes! You can add days during any open enrollment period.

When can I use the Sick Leave Bank?
If you have missed 20 consecutive working days AND have used up all of your accumulated sick leave, you can apply.

How many days can I get from the Sick Leave Bank?
You can get 20 days on your first application. You can ask for an extension of 20 more days.

Who decides if I get the days?
There is a three member Governing Board. The Board will check for medical verification and allocate the days.

How do I pay the days back?
After you have returned to work, you repay 2 days per year.

For more information contact BFT at bft4tchr@lmi.net.