Odds are... you know someone living with drug or alcohol addiction

1 in 10 of our neighbors lives with addiction. The disease affects our entire community and all types of people: parents, athletes, first responders, teenagers, retirees, professionals of all stripes.



Starting conversations. Saving lives.





Addiction is a disease that changes the brain.

When addiction takes hold, the brain is rewired to function as if the substance is life-or-death essential for survival. **It's a chronic disease like cancer, diabetes and arthritis.** And just like other chronic diseases, addiction is both more common and more treatable than most of us know.

Recovery is possible. The brain can heal.

Addiction care can be as effective as treatments for other diseases and works the same way — with medication, counseling, person-centered resources and ongoing support. Scientific breakthroughs in addiction treatment are improving remission and recovery rates by leaps and bounds.

Talking about addiction matters.

The stigma of the disease keeps many of our neighbors from seeking the treatment they need. Giving voice to the public health crisis of addiction — starting conversations — changes the narrative, stops stigma and breaks down barriers to care. Learn more about addiction. Be a conversation starter. Start changing minds.

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Let's talk about addiction.

Effective treatment of addiction is not only the best medicine, it's also far less taxing on our community's resources. **Long-term recovery pays big dividends.** Let's talk about making our community healthier — for all of us.

"Being in recovery gives me a chance to show people what's possible. I volunteer my time and share my story every day. I want people to understand the reality of addiction and not false beliefs, to educate the upcoming generation so change can happen and life overall as a community can get better.³²

Read stories of recovery ChangingMindsLarimer.org/stories

CHANGING MINDS

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