

When someone's in, in need, the community response is really amazing. But there's a whole nother segment of the community that's in pain, and that is struggling with addiction. And it's always been that underpinning of hurt. In our community, I would say every family is touched by, regardless of you know, what their standing is in the community or how they interact with the rest of the community, there is always someone in their family that is struggling. And that I think is the biggest heartache of our people.

And being able to go back into the family dynamics and to where that actually came from, is a long journey. And it's longer than sometimes we're able to get to so we have an inpatient drug and alcohol or alcohol and chemical pendency outpatient program and we have an inpatient program, which is a 10 week program, which is longer than most, but not long enough for everyone to really work through their issues. So once they get out of that rehab, then there's a six week four to six week aftercare program, and then there's a number of self help groups in the community and places that they can go for help. But that doesn't mean we have the answer to anything, because the degree of the rate of recidivism is still significant. And it takes multiple attempts at rehabilitation for people to get better. By that time, their children have been impacted in some way. And you know they grow up and may start using alcohol and chemicals of some sort or another in their early life. So, that cycle has yet to be broken in our community.

Our other challenge that's significant is the Superfund site. That is just to the west of us here borders on the western edge of our territory, the former general motors site, and the PCB contamination there. The health impacts from that are, I think, just now being realized, after 40 or 50 years of exposure through several generations, we're starting to see we believe an increase in cancer cases. So that's the other challenge that we have is getting anybody to care enough to invest the amount of money that's required to remove all of the contaminants from that site. And the meantime, what they've done, General Motors went bankrupt or claimed bankruptcy here. And so they make the mess, and then they leave it and we're left with it. It's not like we can go anywhere, move away. This is our homeland.