



Discussion Questions for Amy's Story

RCORP-ETC and Project Hope are producing digital stories that showcase how community members have been affected by opioid use disorder in rural East Tennessee. Digital stories have the power to transform communities, because they help people learn about and understand the experiences of others. To facilitate this, we have created discussion guides to accompany each of our digital stories. Discussing the events and themes of a digital story can improve understanding of the opioid epidemic and its effects, and ultimately reduce the stigma associated with opioid use disorder.

1. Let's start by recapping the video. How has Amy been impacted by the opioid epidemic?
2. Which scene from the video stuck with you the most?
3. What events, resources, and opportunities led to Amy's sobriety? What challenges did Amy experience that hindered or delayed her recovery?
4. How might community members work together to extend resources in underserved areas to help individuals who, like Amy, have a difficult time securing the help they need to overcome addiction?
5. How can we incorporate practices into our daily lives that help us show up for friends, family members, and peers who may be hesitant to reveal that they are struggling with OUD? What steps can we take to create an environment that cultivates mutual vulnerability?
6. Approximately two million people currently have opioid use disorder in the United States, and the East Tennessee region has been disproportionately affected by the opioid epidemic. How might you seek to offer support to someone who has been personally affected? What resources might you recommend?
7. Identify potential challenges that may arise when extending support to someone who has been affected by the opioid epidemic. How might you overcome these challenges while maintaining a comfortable and supportive environment?
8. How, if at all, did your opinion of the opioid epidemic change as you watched the video?
9. Are there any lingering questions from the video you are still thinking about?

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