

## Why are we here?

Before coming to the Recovery Matters group, we could not manage our own lives. We could not live and enjoy life as other people do. We had to have something different and we thought we had found it in drugs, alcohol, and other activities. We placed their use ahead of the welfare of our families, our wives, husbands, and our children. We had to have more of these substances and activities at all costs. We did many people great harm but most of all we harmed ourselves. Through our inability to accept personal responsibilities we were actually creating our own problems. We seemed to be incapable of facing life on its own terms. Most of us realized that in our addiction we were slowly committing suicide, but addiction is such a cunning enemy of life that we had lost the power to do anything about it. Many of us ended up in jail or sought help through medicine, religion, and psychiatry. None of these methods was sufficient for us. Our disease always resurfaced or continued to progress until in desperation we sought help from each other in Recovery Matters. After coming here, we realized we were sick people. We suffered from a disease from which there is no known cure. It can, however, be arrested at some point and recovery is then possible.

