

WCPG Honors Outstanding Supporters. Annual Awards presented at Statewide Problem Gambling Conference.

SPOKESPERSON: *Available for comment*

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For Immediate Release April 12, 2018 (Green Bay, WI) – The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling celebrated their 25th Anniversary at its annual conference. As part of the celebration WCPG recognized four individuals and two organizations for their outstanding efforts on behalf of the non-profit, statewide organization.

“Having been with the Council for almost 21 years, I have seen many changes,” said Rose Blozinski, WCPG Executive Director. “What has never changed is the love, dedication and perseverance of everyone involved with the Council to provide help to those in need. A few of the original founding members of the Council, Judy Schaff, Carole Teske, Jerry Buckley, and the late Charlie Leonard had a vision and that vision became reality. We are forever grateful to the founding members of the WCPG. Our award recipients, and so many others, are critical to our success in spreading the word about the services that are available for problem and compulsive gamblers in our state.”

The 2018 WCPG award winners are:

- Cornerstone Award – presented to Judy Schaff of Carmel, Indiana. Judy is one of the original founders of the WCPG. Judy was a member of the original Board of Directors. Her strong support and dedication has helped the WCPG get to where we are today.
- Outstanding Achievement Award – presented to Diana Abelt of Franksville, WI. Diana has a great passion for helping compulsive gamblers get the help they need and is always willing to help no matter the situation. Diana is a member of the WCPG Board of Directors, a WCPG Call Responder and answers many patch calls on the Helpline day or night.
- Outstanding Achievement Award – presented to Doug LaBelle of Kenosha, WI. Doug truly believes in the WCPG’s mission and does what he can in his personal and professional life to help compulsive gamblers in need. Doug’s involvement makes a significant difference in the WCPG.
- Outstanding Achievement Award – presented to Ed Ramsey of Eau Claire, WI. Ed brings a vast amount of knowledge to the Board and to all areas he has helped the WCPG in. Ed totally lives his life helping compulsive gamblers and their families.
- Outstanding Achievement Award – presented to the Wisconsin Lottery Director, Cindy Polzin of Madison, WI. The Wisconsin Lottery has developed a relationship with the WCPG that goes back 20 years. The lottery’s support helps the Council fulfill its mission.
- Outstanding Achievement Award – presented to the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services Division of Care and Treatment Services. The WCPG is appreciative of the 20 years of support to continue to provide resources, education and awareness to people with gambling disorders and their families.

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If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, call the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-800-GAMBLE-5, Text at 1-920-888-Help or Live Chat through the WCPG website at www.wi-problemgamblers.org.

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*The **Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling** is funded by a public awareness grant from the State of Wisconsin and additional funding from donors, including Wisconsin Native American Tribes. The Council operates a 24-hour Helpline at 1-800-GAMBLE-5 / 1-920-888-HELP Text line, and Chat available on www.wi-problemgamblers.org, distributes informational brochures, organizes an annual statewide conference, makes presentations on problem gambling and conducts training sessions for treatment providers interested in the special requirements for working with compulsive gamblers and their families.*

For more information, visit the [Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling](http://www.wisconsin-council-on-problem-gambling.org) website, visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/WisconsinCouncilonProblemGambling or follow us on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/wcpgambling>