

WCPG Honors Outstanding Supporters

Annual awards presented at Statewide Problem Gambling Conference

The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling (WCPG) recently recognized four individuals for their outstanding efforts on behalf of the non-profit, statewide organization. The awards were presented at the recent 16th Annual Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling Conference in Elkhart Lake.

The awards are given each year to those who have gone above and beyond in helping the WCPG achieve its mission of promoting public awareness and education on problem and compulsive gambling disorders.

“We would not be able to reach the community as we do without the tremendous support we receive from our volunteers,” said Rose Gruber, WCPG Executive Director. “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 2015 WCPG award winners are:

- **Nancy Baker Award – presented posthumously to Larry Schoville of Janesville.** Larry, who passed away in February, was an enthusiastic member of the WCPG Board of Directors for eight years. He was also a call responder for the WCPG Helpline, active with Gamblers Anonymous, volunteered at the annual problem gambling conference and was dedicated to helping problem gamblers in Wisconsin.
- **Leadership Award – presented to Pat Jirovetz of Oshkosh.** Pat is in her third term as WCPG president after serving several years as vice-president. Pat started with the Council as a call responder for the 24-hour Helpline and joined the WCPG Board in 2009. Pat is a therapist who works with those who are affected by gambling disorders.
- **Special Recognition Award – presented to LeAnn Holden of Waupun.** LeAnn has been involved with the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling for several years, sharing her the story of her struggle with gambling at many training sessions and at the statewide conference.
- **Special Recognition Award – presented to Sharon Guyette of Green Bay.** Sharon has been a tremendous supporter of the work that is being done by the council for a number of years.

“We are grateful for all of the support we receive,” Gruber added. “As a small, nonprofit organization, we could not accomplish everything we do without the important help we get from these community-minded award winners. Our volunteers and supporters do so much to help with our success.”

More than 125 people attended the recent conference at the Osthoff Resort in Elkhart Lake. Gruber also announced that the 17th annual conference will take place March 10-11, 2016 at the Milwaukee Marriott West.