WISCONSINCOUNCIL
ON PROBLEM GAMBLING
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Applicants Sought for Problem Gambling Public Awareness Grants

For Immediate Release **July 1, 2009**

(Green Bay, Wis.) -- The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling (WCPG) is seeking applications for problem gambling public awareness projects throughout Wisconsin. The WCPG grants are available to organizations interested in sponsoring projects to increase public awareness of problem gambling and the resources available to help those who may need help. The grants range generally from $2,000 - $5,000 per project.

"Each time we find a new way to tell Wisconsin residents about the issue of problem gambling and the resources we have, we've seen an increase in calls to our Helpline," said Rose Gruber, WCPG Executive Director. "These grants, which are funded by a state grant, help us present information in new and different ways to people throughout the state."

Gruber says WCPG is seeking innovative, collaborative projects that:

- are directed to Wisconsin residents,
- support the Council mission to educate and promote public understanding of problem gambling and the resources available to help,
- adhere to the Council policy of neutrality on the issue of legalized gambling,
- include defined project outcomes and methods to report the outcomes.

"We're looking for creative ways of getting the word out that problem gamblers do have a place to turn to get help," Gruber said. "We've found that local organizations can be very creative in developing and managing public awareness programs in their local community."

Applications for the grants are available from the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling Council by calling the Council's Helpline at 1-800-GAMBLE-5. Applicants should be 501(c)3 tax-exempt organizations that operate with a governing board and provide services to Wisconsin residents without discrimination on the basis of race, religion, sex, age, sexual preference or national origin.

The application deadline is August 28, 2009.

For more information about the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling, visit 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, 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 www.wi-problemgamblers.org.*

If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, call the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-800-GAMBLE-5 for confidential help.

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