

**WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON PROBLEM GAMBLING INC.**  
**1423 KELLOGG STREET**  
**GREEN BAY, WI 54303**  
**WWW.WI-PROBLEMGAMBLERS.ORG**

**For help, call:**  
**1-800-GAMBLE-5**

**Winter 2010**

The Council's public awareness campaign is funded by the State of Wisconsin, Department of Health Services, Division of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services, Bureau of Prevention Treatment and Recovery. MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR: Potawatomi Bingo Casino.



**WISCONSIN COUNCIL**  
**ON PROBLEM GAMBLING**

**Welcome to 2010**

Happy New Year! As 2010 begins, the staff and Board of Directors for the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling look forward to continuing and expanding the services we provide to compulsive gamblers, their family members and to the state of Wisconsin.

The WCPG will celebrate its 17<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2010. Requests for our services continue to increase, not only through calls to the Helpline but by requests from schools, service groups, professional conferences, etc. Calls to the statewide 24-hour Helpline have increased 325% since the Helpline began in 1996.

The Council continues to provide training to treatment providers who are interested in treating compulsive gambling disorders. Currently we have 77 treatment providers who are providing services to compulsive gamblers and their families throughout the state.

Calls to the Helpline continue to increase. Callers to the 24-hour Helpline receive referrals to Gamblers Anonymous meetings, GamAnon meetings and treatment providers who have been trained specifically to work with the compulsive gambling addiction.

On March 18-19, 2010, the Twelfth Annual Compulsive Gambling Awareness Conference will take place at the Blue Harbor Resort in Sheboygan. We look forward to hosting our 12<sup>th</sup> Annual State-wide Conference as we bring in national and local speakers.

As our Statewide Public Awareness Campaign continues, we continue to look for new ways to provide quality information throughout the state on the compulsive gambling addiction and to let people know that help is available for those who are affected.

During 2010, we look forward to continuing our partnership with the Potawatomi Bingo Casino. The partnership with Potawatomi Bingo Casino helps keep the Helpline operating and expanding its services, provides sponsorship and scholarships for the annual conference, and provides training programs in the Milwaukee area.

We are very thankful to the State of Wisconsin, Department of Health Services, Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Bureau of Prevention Treatment and Recovery for their ongoing support and recognition of compulsive gambling disorders.

As 2010 moves forward, I look forward to working with all of you and keeping you updated on what is happening at the Council.

Rose Gruber, WCPG Executive Director

**2010 Board of Directors:**

Sharon Salm-  
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 Training Coordinator  
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 Assistant

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Destiny is no matter of chance. It is a matter of choice: It is not a thing to be waited for; it is a thing to be achieved. -William Jennings Bryan

## **The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling 2009 Year in Review**

The year 2009 was the eleventh year of our Compulsive Gambling Public Awareness Campaign. It was our sixteenth year in operation and the fourteenth year of the 24-hour Helpline. The Council continued to see tremendous growth during the past year.

The Public Awareness Campaign contains six different project areas used to enhance the awareness of Problem and Compulsive Gambling. These areas include the 24-hour Helpline, Mini-grants for Community-Based Activities, High School Educational Curriculum; Statewide Compulsive Gambling Awareness Conference, our Public Relations Media Awareness Campaign, and the Training of Human Service Professionals.

### **24 Hour Helpline**

The Helpline received 14,604 calls in 2009 with the highest number of calls being in September with 1,384 calls. Our Helpline number is included in more than 145 telephone directories throughout the state. We were originally in only 15 books. Hits to our website are increasing annually, having received 5,630 hits in 2009. The highest month was January with 631 hits. The average debt amount of calls to the Helpline was \$38,273. However, many people refuse to divulge this information and are confused about their indebtedness. Area code 414 received the most calls. During the year 2009, 2,804 referrals were made and 604 packets of information were sent.

### **High School Educational Curriculum**

We continue to work with schools in implementing the curriculum, "Gambling: Choices and Challenges". Distribution of the curriculum is important because teens are rapidly becoming the fastest growing population involved in problem and compulsive gambling. To date we have received more than 650 requests from schools across Wisconsin requesting the curriculum. Many of them have implemented the curriculum into their programs and a number of others have implementation dates in place. We are currently revising the curriculum to include updated research and trends. Presentations in schools throughout the state continue.

### **State Wide Compulsive Gambling Conference**

Our Eleventh Annual Statewide Conference on Problem Gambling had 156 participants attending the two-day conference in Wisconsin Dells at the Kalahari on March 19-20, 2009. Speakers included Martha Ammermann (Wisconsin), Sandra Brustuen (Minnesota), Dawn Cronin (North Dakota), Joanna Franklin (Maryland), Priscilla Murphy (Delaware), Cheryl Kirking (Wisconsin), Doug LaBelle (Wisconsin), Dr. Henry Lesieur (Rhode Island), Dr. Stuart Robertshaw (Wisconsin), Mike Schiks (Minnesota), Lisa Vig (North Dakota), Dr. James Walsh (Delaware), Keith Whyte (Washington, D.C.). Topics at the conference included: family, forgiveness, IBCCT Therapy, crime, healing power of humor, military, older adults, treatment methods, youth, and EAP. Five awards were given to participants that have been instrumental in helping the Council continue to expand education, awareness and the prevention of problem gambling. The Special Recognition Award was given to Carol Maulson. A second Special Recognition Award was given to Ann Erickson. The Outstanding Volunteer Award was presented to Larry Schoville. The Leadership Award was given to The Wisconsin Lottery. The Spirit Award went to Richard Stanchfield.

### **Training of Human Service Professionals**

We have been able to provide two Phase I and Phase II training sessions throughout the state during 2009. Two Phase III and Phase IV sessions were also held. A "Stakes are High" training was held in Eau Claire. Five Department of Corrections trainings were held during 2009. Three hundred twenty three training units were provided through our training sessions.

We continue to develop a list of all persons/agencies within the state of Wisconsin qualified to provide training, education, treatment or public information at various levels, for use by such groups as Employee Assistance Programs, human resource personnel, AODA personnel, school counselors, treatment providers and civic and church groups.

### **Public Relations/Media Campaign**

As part of the media awareness campaign, the following has been accomplished or continues:

Planning, development, and implementation of the public awareness campaign-phase eleven.

- WCPG continues to develop a list within the State of Wisconsin with persons/agencies qualified to provide training, education, treatment or public information at various levels on the issue of compulsive gambling.
- Printing and distribution of twelve different posters.

- One-on-one media interviews in the state’s five main media markets.
- More than 450 media contacts, including newspapers, radio, and television.
- Numerous press releases on the WCPG effort.
- Continued distribution of “Is Gambling Affecting Your Life?” (approximately 100,000 have been distributed).
- Exterior bus signage continues in several cities throughout Wisconsin, as well as cards for bus interiors.
- Billboard advertising continues. Bus shelter ads were developed for Milwaukee.
- Bathroom ads in Wisconsin casinos.
- Exhibits at a variety of conferences and programs throughout the state.
- Tokens, magnets, pens, pencils, note clips, back scratchers, calendars, oven sticks, and computer dusters, etc. are being distributed in a variety of ways throughout Wisconsin. These public awareness “tools” are an excellent opportunity to get the 800-Helpline number out to thousands of people. People will pick up a pen, which has the 800 number on it, easier than they may take a pamphlet.
- Continues partnership with the Wisconsin Lottery.
- Increased materials in our resource library.
- Continues distribution of WCPG brochures including “special population” brochures.
- Continues distribution of membership brochure.
- Continues development of a data collection process for a book of experts.
- Reached an estimated 14,500 people through contacts at exhibits, workshops and conferences.
- WCPG continues to speak to a variety of groups—EAP, social service departments, counselors, people working with the elderly, Dept. of Corrections, etc. to provide education and awareness on the compulsive gambling addiction.
- WCPG placed ads in “Teaching Today”, a statewide newspaper that goes to almost all of the schools in Wisconsin. This will be a great contact with people who work with adolescents who have a high rate of becoming addicted to gambling.
- WCPG continues to distribute our quarterly newsletter to approximately 5,500 people throughout the state.
- A public awareness folder for 2009 was developed and distributed.
- A workplace brochure continues to be distributed to generate more awareness in the workplace environment.
- A legislative newsletter is distributed quarterly to all legislators in Wisconsin.
- A brochure geared toward parents continues to be distributed.
- An ad continues in the Union Labor Directory, which is given to thousands of people.

### **Mini-Grants**

The mini-grant program continues. Mini-grants help to enhance the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling public awareness programs. There was one mini-grant awarded in 2008-09. The grant was awarded to: Sawyer County.

The goals of the Sawyer County mini-grant were to:

- Provide resources, information and support on problem gambling.
- Provide written resources.
- Display billboards which will provide public awareness resources.
- Provide newspaper ads.

The Request For Proposals for the mini-grants for 2009-10 was distributed. The mini-grant information has been placed on our website so more organizations can become aware of the program.

### **Potawatomi Bingo Casino Sponsorship**

Through the Potawatomi Bingo Casino Sponsorship we were able to provide Phase I-IV trainings in the Milwaukee area. Sponsorship was provided for the Eleventh Annual Conference and 15 scholarships were awarded. The sponsorship also provides assistance for the operation of the 24-hour Helpline and printing of brochures/booklets.

WCPG had a very challenging and productive 2009. We will continue to move forward in all of our endeavors and we look forward to continuing and expanding our programs in the year 2010.

## A JOURNEY: FROM CHILD TO ADULT COMPULSIVE GAMBLER

BY ROBERT MCGUIGAN

The gambling industry has a completely different face on it than it did years ago. Growing up all we had were board games, card games, dice games and if you wanted to play bingo you had to go to the local church. Heaven forbid if you wanted to get the latest line and bet on a college or professional sports game because you had to go to Vegas for that. Today, just pick up your local paper or turn on your TV for the latest line and also watch Texas Hold' Em. Walk into a gas station, grocery store or a convenience store and chances are you are going to wait in line for someone who is buying lottery tickets or purchasing some scratch card games. Want to play some slot machines? Just drive to your local casino or better yet, just go to the nearest pub or restaurant and there will be plenty of machines for you to play. Today you can pick up your cell phone, turn on your PC from the school library, dorm, bedroom or coffee shop and find a poker game to play and do it in complete privacy. You can also check with your off-shore bookie in the Bahamas and place a bet on any game you want. Our youth today is bombarded with all this and we have let it go unchecked. We have helped to create a major social problem with our youth that has caused havoc and financial devastation for families and loved ones. I know this all too well because my son, Jason, was a compulsive gambler and was murdered along with two other young men by a 19 yr. old University of Wisconsin student from Taiwan who was an addicted gambler as well. In all, 5 young men are dead due to the compulsive gambling addictions of these two young men.

Growing up in a small rural community, as a young lad I went bike riding, swimming, camping, fishing, hunting and watching TV just like the other kids did. To fill in time we also played a variety of dice and card games for money with family and friends. The card playing intensified as a teenager and for six of us it turned into a regular ritual. It was not uncommon for us to skip school days at a time to just play cards. My brother, who was 6 years older than me, didn't like to fish or hunt and instead he went down to the local café and played pinochle and poker with the farmers and the retired guys, much to the disliking of my dad. He carried this on into his high school years and it was not uncommon to have 4-6 tables of high school students at the house playing poker throughout the weekend and it became a regular ritual. My dad was opposed to the gambling but was overruled by my mother because to her the boys were home and safe and not getting into trouble. They would play for hours and friends sometimes had to wait hours for a slot to open up to play. When they were short handed and needed someone to sit in they would ask me and I was more than happy to oblige. Little did they realize I had spent the past few months learning the games and the moves to make and how to bet. I became quite the card player at 8 years old and the seed was planted. My brother continued on his ways and later would take 2-3 bus loads of people from work to the race tracks and was quite good at picking out the horses. A few years later he was setting up local pubs with Parley cards and would collect the money and pay the winners and collect from the losers. Needless to say there were more losers than winners. He then took the next step and became one of the biggest bookies in the area. He eventually got so big that he cut off all contact with his mother and two brothers. He had his own family and they were the gamblers. As for myself, I continued to play into my military and married life days. I taught my wife how to play and we started going to Euchre and Cribbage Tournaments 3 to 4 nights a week. When she became pregnant with our son, Jason, we stopped playing the tournaments but would have friends over for an occasional game.

During Jason's early years I would pick him up at his mom's house and we were off to the races. Our first stop would be to get some pizza and play the games at Chuck E. Cheese's. Jason would play all the games he could and couldn't wait to cash in his tickets and win a prize. I am not sure how much money we spent but he had fun and I enjoyed watching the excitement on his face when he would pull a stuffed animal out of the machine or win a ton of tickets. After we left Chuck E. Cheese's we went to the Arcades to play more games. He would get on the rides, play the machines, and have fun with all the other kids. I was always amazed that no matter when we got there the place was wall to wall with kids and every game was taken and Jason had to wait his turn to play. The games we played and the things we did changed as Jason started to get older. He didn't like going to Chuck E. Cheese's anymore but we still went to the Arcades. When he got bored with the Arcade we would head to the bowling alley for a sandwich and more games and while there I started teaching him to shoot pool and darts. He played darts with such passion and intensity that as a young adult he entered dart tournaments for money and prizes and won numerous trophies and events. On the home front he started playing video games and would play them for hours with his friends. Around this time I purchased a PC for him. Since I was not computer savvy his friends showed him the ropes and I bought some games of skill for him to download such as Kings Corner and solitaire just to name a couple. We also started playing Monopoly and when his friends came over we would spend the evening playing it. When the kids needed a break from playing Monopoly, I started teaching them different dice games such as Yahtzee, craps, etc. One of our favorite pastimes was going camping and fishing which we did extensively. The majority of the time he would bring along a friend who did not have someone to take his places and do things with. The two of them would grow up to be best friends. At the campsite when we were done fishing and eating we would shoot dice sometimes into the early morning hours. Jason loved those dice games so



much that when the weather permitted we would set up the picnic table outside, hang the lights and play for hours with friends. The same was true with Monopoly.

At 13, Jason came to live with me and we had more time to shoot darts, pool, go camping, fishing, and play more dice and Monopoly games. Looking back I can now see the intensity in his eyes and the adrenaline that was pumping through him, but I did not know at that time that gambling was an addiction and it's obvious now that he was addicted. The video and internet games became more sophisticated and he started buying more games and spent more time playing them. Trying to pull him off the internet and video games grew more and more challenging. Around this time Jason also was becoming more interested in sports and his favorite teams were the Badgers, Packers and the Chicago Cubs. He started learning the players' names, the teams they played for, and their stats and rankings as well. With his interest and current knowledge of sports he started having more contact with his uncle, the bookie. The two of them would talk sports for hours and when it came game time they would bet with each other, much to my displeasure. I tried to persuade my brother not to bet with Jason but he said it was just in fun. I told him that Jason didn't have the money management skills and did not comprehend what he was getting into but to no avail. They would make the bets and if Jason won my brother paid him and if he lost Jason didn't have to pay. That was a win win situation for my son but a losing proposition for me.

After graduating from high school he moved in with friends and continued to play the video and internet games and betting on the sport games with my brother but the difference being he had to pay if he lost. During this period of time his interest in internet card games also took off. His friends would tell me later that he would sit up all night on the computer playing poker for money and getting the latest scores coming in from the west coast so he knew where he stood with the bookies that morning. He would sleep during the day. After going through his belongings after his death I found numerous discs about learning how to play poker and betting on the internet and I suspect now that he started learning some of those games during his high school years. The game Texas Hold' Em was on every one of those discs and there were other games I never heard of as well. Since he was now 18 and old enough he took the next step and started going to the local casino to play the different machines, poker, dice games, and Black Jack which turned out to be his favorite card game. His best friend called me numerous times and told me that Jason was going to the casino quite frequently and betting large sums of money at the Black Jack table. At first I didn't believe him until I got a call from his great aunt and found out she had given him over \$10,000.00. After finding this out I went to the casino to try and get the money back but to no avail and I also found out he was considered a high stakes roller. This is where he met Mark, the 19 year old UW student who committed the murders.

During this period of time my brother cut the family ties and Jason needed to find another bookie to place bets with which wasn't a problem. Now that he wasn't getting the info from his uncle on which teams to bet on he had to find another avenue. He found it on the internet through the different sports books that are out there and got the info he needed. They would charge a fee and would tell you which team is the pick of the week and the other games to bet on as well. He continued on betting with the bookies and eventually they cut him off for non- payment. I strongly suspect that since all the bookies in the area knew each other my brother covered the bets that Jason owed so there would be no problems for any of them. By now he was a sports junkie and needed his fix so he had to find another avenue to place a sports bet. He found it on the internet in the Bahamas called off-shore betting. All he had to do was sign up, give them all his personal info including SS number, banking and credit card info and he was ready to go. The only difference between off- shore betting and bookies is that the money had to be placed upfront and no credit accepted. No money, no bet. Since his new- found gambling buddy lived in Madison he would come over and Jason started teaching him about the different sports teams, both professional and college. Eventually he set Mark up with an off- shore account in the Bahamas and would often place bets for the two of them. One of those bets was on a pro baseball game for approximately \$8,000.00. Six weeks after meeting Jason, Mark shot and killed the boys because the bets were never placed. Had the bets been placed they would have won \$17,000 each. On the morning of the trial Mark hung himself in his jail cell. In the years following, tragedy struck the other families again with the loss of their only surviving sons. One committed suicide over the loss of his brother and the other was lost to a drug overdose. All families, including Mark's, are left without anyone to carry on their family name. It was later revealed that my aunt had given Jason \$250,000 over a short period of time and the net worth of Mark's family from Taiwan, which the police could verify, was over \$300,000,000.

A few years ago I sold my season tickets to the Badger football games to a young family and at the time their daughter was 8 years old. I met them for dinner and we started talking about gambling and out of the clear blue sky their daughter said, "Oh, I play Texas Hold' Em all the time but I don't gamble, I just play with chips." Needless to say we were all taken aback by that statement. When asked how and where she learned to play it, she said she went to candy-cane.com. I wish we had asked how long she had been playing it so we would have known the age she was when she started.

Gambling today has become more socially acceptable and a direct result is that more and more of our youth are getting hooked on gambling. They are jumping into it without the necessary skills and knowledge to completely understand and comprehend what they are getting into and the ramifications that can come with it. As this generation of youth start reaching adulthood, there will be more bankruptcies, suicides, divorces, embezzlement cases and other crimes. This will tax our already overburdened local, state and federal government agencies and the non-profit groups that work with them. However the cost and burden that will be placed on our society will be immensely greater but it will not compare or even come close to what it places on those individuals and their families that will be victimized by those crimes. The crimes being committed today by addicted gamblers will pale in comparison as to what they will be in 5 to 10 years. The one question that I have is, if there would have been more education, research, training and counseling in our schools and colleges across the United States on compulsive and addictive gambling behaviors, could this tragedy have been avoided?

As social workers, counselors, psychologists, criminal justice and law enforcement personnel, teachers and school administrators involved in all levels of education, you have a moral obligation, duty and responsibility to be more proactive regarding this issue and bringing awareness of this issue out to the forefront of our society. As a parent, so do I.

When my son was in his early 20's, we discussed taking a camping and fishing trip out west to learn about fly fishing and to do some bonding. We never made that trip; however, this summer I'm going to make that trip in memory of my son and to bring awareness of this issue to the public. Think of what you can do in your schools, your practice, the public institutions you work for, your work place, and your home to bring this awareness out.

Mark gambled that he could get away with murder. He lost and so did the rest of us.

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### Save the Date!

The National Council on Problem Gambling and the Oregon Council on Problem Gambling bring you the 24th Annual National Conference on Problem Gambling. Make plans to attend the oldest and largest conference on problem gambling in the world. Hear more than 100 of the top presenters from across the U.S. and around the world.

June 9-12, 2010 in Portland, Oregon  
For more information check online at: [ncpgambling.org](http://ncpgambling.org)

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The Twenty-Sixth Annual National Rural Institute on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Conference  
This unique rural alcohol and drug abuse conference provides participants the opportunity to personally interact with other rural alcohol and drug abuse professionals, federal agency representatives, and nationally known institute faculty and resource persons.

June 13-17, 2010 at UW-Stout

### There is Still Time to Register! March 18 & 19, 2010

#### Twelfth Annual Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling Statewide Conference

There is still time to register for our 2010 state conference, which will be held March 18 & 19, 2010, at the Blue Harbor Resort and Conference Center in Sheboygan, Wisconsin. Early registration rates are available until February 24, 2010. Scholarships are available. Hotel reservations should be made prior to February 15, 2010 to be eligible for the conference rate of \$114.00 per night. To reserve your room, call The Blue Harbor Resort and Conference Center at 1-866-701-2583; spaces are limited.

This conference will bring together Treatment Providers, Researchers, Criminal Justice Personnel, Law Enforcement, EAP Professionals, Social Workers, Tribal Officials, Elected Officials, Educators, Students, HR Personnel, Clergy, Compulsive Gamblers, and Family/ Friends of Problem Gamblers.

Continuing Education Credits applied for with the following: Department of Regulation and Licensing, National Council on Problem Gambling, Employee Assistance Certification Commission, Wisconsin Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Social Work and Substance Abuse.

For more information or to download a conference brochure / scholarship application, you can visit our website at: [wi-problemgamblers.org](http://wi-problemgamblers.org).

**2010 TRAINING SCHEDULE—CONTACT WCPG FOR DETAILS**  
**920-437-8888 1-800-GAMBLE-5**  
**wi-problemgamblers.org**

**2010 GREEN BAY TRAINING SCHEDULE**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TRAINING</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>Registration Deadline</b>
April 22-23, 2010	Phase 1	1423 Kellogg St Green Bay, WI	April 16, 2010
May 13-14, 2010	Phase 2	1423 Kellogg St Green Bay, WI	May 7, 2010
August 26-27, 2010	Phase 3	1423 Kellogg St Green Bay, WI	August 20, 2010
September 23-24, 2010	Phase 4	1423 Kellogg St Green Bay, WI	September 17, 2010

**Save Money!!**

- **Sign up for Phase 1 and 2 or Phase 3 and 4 at the same time and receive a \$25.00 discount!**
- **Sign up for all 4 Phases and receive a \$100.00 discount!**
- **Get 3 people from the same agency to attend and receive a 10% discount off the Total!**  
**\*\*This discount applies ONLY to our Green Bay Training Location.\*\***  
**Sorry, we cannot accept credit cards.**

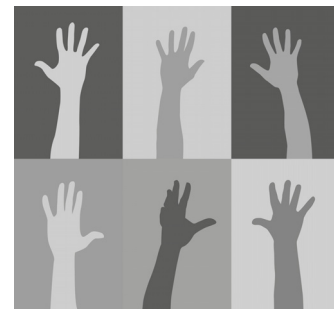
**2010 MILWAUKEE TRAINING SCHEDULE**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TRAINING</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>Registration Deadline</b>
September 30-October 1, 2010	Phase 3	7065 N. Port Washington Road	September 24, 2010
October 21-22, 2010	Phase 4	7065 N. Port Washington Road	October 15, 2010

**VOULENTEER'S WANTED!**



**The WCPG is currently accepting volunteers. Anyone interested in donating their skills and time to the organization by answering Helpline calls or helping with administrative projects is encouraged to contact us at (920)437-8888.**



**National Problem Gambling Awareness Week March 7-13, 2010**

The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling, along with the National Council on Problem Gambling, is working to raise awareness about the consequences of those with the gambling addiction. We hope the information in this newsletter will in some way help in our mission of promoting education on problem and pathological gambling. For more information or resource materials, please contact us at 1-800-GAMBLE-5.

1423 Kellogg Street  
 Green Bay, WI 54303  
 Phone: (920)437-8888  
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 or email:  
[wcpgamble5@new.rr.com](mailto:wcpgamble5@new.rr.com).

**Follow us on Facebook!**

## Opportunity Awaits You!

The WCPG is looking for individuals who are interested in serving as a member on our Board of Directors. Presently, Board Members are being sought from throughout the State and from various career/ business sectors. Board meetings are scheduled in Green Bay bimonthly, with Committee meetings scheduled in between. When necessary, teleconferencing is available. The process consists of submitting an application, followed by the attendance at a Board meeting, with the final decision based on desired criteria being met. The WCPG is a statewide organization which provides resources, public awareness and education on problem and pathological gambling disorders while maintaining strict neutrality on the issue of legalized gambling. **For a Board application or additional information please contact the WCPG.**

***There was a typo on the Registration form in the Conference Edition Newsletter.***

**The Pre-Conference Workshops on Wednesday, March 17th, 2010 are as follows:**

\$170.00 Full Conference and **Full Day** Pre-Conference A (with James Walsh) will be from 9:00-12:00 and 1:00-5:00  
 \$150.00 Full Conference and **Half-Day** Pre-Conference B (with Daniel Smith) will be from 1:00-5:00

**WCPG Has a variety of posters, brochures, and pamphlets available for free distribution. If you are interested in displaying these or seeing sample items, please contact us at 920-437-8888.**

The Wisconsin Council On Problem Gambling provides resources, public awareness and education on problem and pathological gambling disorders while maintaining strict neutrality on the issue of legalized gambling.

**Our goals are to:**

- Promote public education and awareness of pathological and problem gambling disorders.
- Maintain a toll-free statewide Helpline where pathological and problem gamblers and their families can call for immediate and continuing assistance in dealing with the addiction.
- Advocate quality assistance for all individuals affected by gambling problems.
- Identify "high risk" individuals and groups of problem and pathological gamblers and provide prevention activities and information.
- Provide expert training to professional counselors in the treatment of pathological and problem gamblers.
- Compile and maintain a database of statistical information concerning problem and pathological gambling in Wisconsin.