

WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON PROBLEM GAMBLING

WWW.WI-PROBLEMGAMBLERS.ORG

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.

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

Fall 2009



WISCONSIN COUNCIL
ON PROBLEM GAMBLING

Youth Gambling Research Continues

Some experts say that youth impulsivity may be a predictor of pathological gambling occurring later in life. According to a longitudinal study done by Pagani et al. (2009), early childhood impulsivity is significantly correlated to youth gambling. The study looked at the correlation between early childhood impulsive behavior and youth gambling activities in kindergarten through sixth grade students.

In another study, researchers at the University of Adelaide surveyed more than 2,500 teenagers between the ages of 13 and 17. They found that 56% of them had gambled in the last year, and 2 percent of those had become pathological gamblers by the time they had reached the age of 18.

Researchers now believe that there is a connection between adolescents who play video games and their having a gambling problem. According to Professor Delfabbro, teenage problem gamblers play arcade games 3 times more often than non-gamblers and play hand held internet games 2 times as often. Both gamblers and video game players may have similar personal characteristics such as impulsivity and risk taking behaviors.

Adolescence is a time of experimentation, risk taking, and finding one's self. For many older adolescents, gambling is viewed as a "rite of passage." Children and adolescents gamble for enjoyment, excitement, to make money, and for social pleasure. The rates of problem gamblers are higher in adolescent gamblers than among adults.

Youth gambling is risky due to the fact that many adolescents are not mature enough to handle the situations that may arise. Youth gambling may also lead to gambling problems later in life. According to a study done by Jacobs (2000), juvenile gambling in the U.S. now exceeds the expected onset for their use of cigarettes, hard liquor, and marijuana. It is important to pay attention to changes in a person's mood or activities because a gambling addiction is easily hidden. Here are just a few of the possible warning signs of youth problem gambling: having a sudden and intense interest in sports or gambling materials, an increase in arguments with family and friends about gambling, a change in friends, and unexplained money or possessions.

****Information for this article came from "The early bird is even earlier: predicting gambling behavior in kindergarten."—The WAGER Vol. 14 (3), Joanna Franklin, MS NCGC II, and "Study links video games with gambling." Reported by: Bronwyn Herbert.**

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REMINDER
The National Council on
Problem Gambling's
Public Awareness Week
will be: March 7-13, 2010

The WCPG welcomes
Sharon Giroux to the Board
of Directors.

“Nobody can go back and start a new beginning, but anyone can start today and make a new ending.” Maria Robinson

**Save
The
Date**

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



*Our next conference will be held at the
Blue Harbor Resort and Conference Center
Sheboygan, Wisconsin
March 18-19, 2010*

*Make your reservations now by calling 1-866-701-2583
to get the special conference rate!*

1423 Kellogg Street
Green Bay, WI 54303
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E-mail:
wcpgamble5@new.rr.com



**Mark Your
Calendars!**

**WISCONSIN COUNCIL
ON PROBLEM GAMBLING**

**Join the Helpline by
Becoming a Provider!**

The mission of the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling is to provide resources, public awareness and education on problem and pathological gambling disorders while maintaining strict neutrality on the issue of legalized gambling. An integral part of our services is operating an 800 Helpline where gamblers and family members are able to obtain referrals for treatment from properly trained and accredited professionals.

We have compiled a statewide directory of treatment providers who are able to accept referrals for the treatment of pathological gambling. Below is the information necessary to be included in the Referral Directory.

Criteria for inclusion in the WCPG Resource and Referral Directory is:

- * Only licensed or accredited facilities and/or programs will be included.

- * Only those individual practitioners who maintain a current license or state issued certificate to practice in Wisconsin will be included.

- * Practitioners will have completed a minimum of 30 hours, and must be in the process of completing 60 hours of gambling specific training as required for NCPG certification.

- * All programs and practitioners must submit requested information to WCPG along with copies of all supporting documentation, e.g., copies of their licenses and completed gambling courses. All information is reviewed on an annual basis.

If you are interested in becoming a provider for the 24 hour Helpline, please contact the WCPG office.

Seven Ways to Gamble Safely

1. Gamble only what you can afford to lose.
2. Avoid chasing lost money.
3. Accept loss as a part of the game.
4. Understand that past results do not predict future results.
5. Balance your time, money and energy.
6. Do not gamble to solve problems.
7. Take a break, watch a show, or take a walk.

Did you know?

- **Older adults gamble for the same reasons younger gamblers do.**

These reasons include:

- Fun and entertainment
- Excitement
- Win money
- Relieving pain
- Supplementing their income

Youth problem gamblers:

- May have lower self-esteem than non-gambling adolescents
- Are more susceptible to engaging in multiple co-occurring addictive behaviors
- May have a greater need for sensation seeking, and are more likely to take risks while gambling
- Often fail to understand the risks or odds associated with gambling
- May have poor general coping skills
- May dissociate more frequently when gambling
- May have difficulty conforming to social norms
- May have difficulty with self-discipline

1-800-GAMBLE-5



WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON PROBLEM GAMBLING 2010 PATHOLOGICAL GAMBLING TRAINING PROGRAMS

ABOUT THESE WORKSHOPS

These programs are designed for those counselors who are or plan to be working with problem gamblers and their families in a variety of clinical settings. We welcome participants from the criminal justice field, the employee assistance field, the faith and pastoral care traditions, educators, the gaming industry, the recovering community and others to our programs. Though the information is designed for counselors to incorporate into their clinical practice we hope all of our participants, no matter who they may be, will learn about the effects of problem gambling on the individual, family and community and use the information to help those who fall into their own professional scope of practice. Completion of 30 hours of gambling-specific training education may allow participants to become eligible as a referral source for the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling's, **1-800-GAMBLE-5** Helpline.

Phase 1*

OBJECTIVES:

- **History and prevalence of gambling and problem gambling**
- **Types of gamblers**
- **Definitions of gambling**
- **Screening and assessment**
- **Co-morbid and co-occurring disorders**
- **Family counseling**
- **Group and Individual counseling strategies and treatment approaches to problem gambling**

*Phase 1 is a prerequisite for Phase 2.

Phase 2*

OBJECTIVES:

- **Self-help programs and natural recovery**
- **Motivational enhancement and the use of harm reduction**
- **Financial issues and asset protection plans**
- **Neurotransmitters and communication in the brain**
- **Psychopharmacology: Research, cautions and treatment**
- **Gambling and Legal Issues**
- **Workplace Warning Signs**
- **Mind, Body and Spirit: Practical advances in gambling treatment**

*Must provide proof of Phase 1 completion.

Certification Hours:

Continuing Education Units for 15 hours each phase has been applied for with the following: Wisconsin Association for Marriage and Family Therapy, Social Work and the Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing. Fourteen Continuing Education Units has been applied for with the EACC. "The National Gambling Counselor Certification Board has reviewed this program and finds that it is consistent with the established standards for gambling counselor education and training." Certificate of attendance will be provided by the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling.

- A \$25.00 administration fee will be charged for cancellations prior to the trainings registration deadline.
- No cancellations will be refunded after the training registration deadline. Credit will be issued for this fee good for any WCPG training within 12 months.



2010 PATHOLOGICAL GAMBLING TRAINING PROGRAMS WRITTEN BY JOANNA FRANKLIN, MS, NCGC

Following completion of the Phase 1 & Phase 2 thirty-hour training and education program, counselors will be ready to assess, screen and evaluate for gambling problems among their caseloads and among those who present for care. They will be ready to intervene in a crisis, assist in preparation of restitution plans, refer clients for appropriate levels of care and begin the treatment planning process, etc. Following completion of the 60 hour training and education program, counselors will be prepared to work with family and significant others, special populations, present salient patient education topics to clients and families, prepare court reports, assist with complete asset protection plans and use an array of clinical strategies focusing on impulse control and self-regulation interventions in the treatment of gambling problems, etc.

The training for clinical professionals is a total of 60 hours of gambling specific training and education sessions. Participants who successfully complete the entire sixty hours are then encouraged to begin the National Certification process.

- The Jim Aro scholarship is available. It covers the cost of a WCPG and State of WI, Dept. HFS, Bureau of Prevention, Treatment and Recovery in the Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services sponsored Phase 1 & 2 training in 2010. Please contact the Council if you are interested in applying. The scholarship application deadline is January 30, 2010.
- The Lynn Carlson scholarship is available. It covers the cost of a WCPG and State of WI, Dept. HFS, Bureau of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services sponsored Phase 3 and 4 training in 2010. Please contact the Council if you are interested in applying. The scholarship application deadline is June 30, 2010 .

Phase 3*

OBJECTIVES:

- Multicultural issues and problem gambling
(Hispanics, African Americans and Asians)
- Women and problem gambling
- Special populations: Adolescents
- Special populations: Older adults
- Special populations: Women

*Must provide proof of Phase 1 & 2 completion.

Phase 4*

OBJECTIVES:

- Problem gambling and relapse
- Professional code
- Ethical standards
- Relapse prevention
- National certification standards/National Certification Exam

*Must provide proof of Phase 1, 2 & 3 completion.

Training Details

Training	Location	Address	Times
All Trainings: Phase 1—4	Green Bay, WI	Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling 1423 Kellogg Street Green Bay, WI 54303	Thursday: 8:00am to 5:00pm Friday: 8:00am to 4:00pm (1 hour lunch)

Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling Green Bay, WI Trainings Offered in 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.

**Mail Registration w/
check or money order
to:**

WCPG
1423 Kellogg St.
Green Bay, WI
54303

Check the box for the session (s) you would like to attend.

Phase 1: \$150.00

Date	Location	Registration Deadline
April 22-23, 2010	1423 Kellogg St., Green Bay	April 16, 2010

Phase 2: \$150.00

Date	Location	Registration Deadline
May 13-14, 2010	1423 Kellogg St., Green Bay	May 7, 2010

Phase 3: \$150.00

Date	Location	Registration Deadline
August 26-27, 2010	1423 Kellogg St., Green Bay	August 20, 2010

Phase 4: \$150.00

Date	Location	Registration Deadline
September 23-24, 2010	1423 Kellogg St., Green Bay	September 17, 2010

TOTAL COST	Phases taken separately	Phase 1 & Phase 2	Phase 3 & 4	All 4 Phase Trainings
	\$150 each	\$275	\$275	\$500

Please Print

NAME	TITLE
ADDRESS	CITY/STATE/ZIP
ORGANIZATION	E-MAIL
PHONE	FAX

Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling Membership Information

As the number of compulsive gamblers continues to grow, it is important to maintain an easily accessible Council on Problem Gambling to network across the state for public education and professional treatment. Our Council seeks to work cooperatively with all concerned groups in an effort to address the needs of problem gamblers, their families, their employers and their community.

The following outlines the contributor levels.

Friend Membership \$1—\$99
Bronze Membership \$100—\$499
Silver Membership \$500—\$999
Gold Membership \$1,000—\$4,999
Benefactor Membership \$5,000—\$14,999
Champion Membership \$15,000—\$24,999
All-Star Membership \$25,000 and over

The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization and an affiliate of the National Council on Problem Gambling, Inc. Your **tax deductible** membership will allow us to continue and increase the following services that we are able to provide.

Your contribution will help us to:

1. Operate our statewide office (located in Green Bay) with 3 full-time and 1 part-time staff members.
2. Maintain operation of our toll-free, 24 hour Helpline.
3. Provide speakers and professional training seminars.
4. Offer education/prevention programs for “high risk” groups, such as adolescents and the elderly.
5. Compile statistics about the prevalence of problem and pathological gambling.

If you would like to become a member, please fill out the following information and mail it with your contribution to:
WCPG 1423 Kellogg Street Green Bay, WI 54303

Please print clearly.

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____

E-Mail _____



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

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View this newsletter online at:
www.wi-problemgamblers.org

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.

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT:

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.

RESOURCE LIBRARY

The WCPG has both books and videos in our lending library. Materials can be loaned out on a two week basis. These materials can also be mailed to you. For more information, call Cheri at (920) 437-8888 or email her at: wcpgamble5-cheri@new.rr.com