

# WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON PROBLEM GAMBLING

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

Conference Edition Spring 2008

PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN FUNDED by the State of Wisconsin, Department of Health/Family Services-Bureau of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services

MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR: Potawatomi Bingo Casino

## Tenth Annual Compulsive Gambling Awareness Conference was record breaking!

The Tenth Annual Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling Statewide Conference had a record breaking attendance this year with 160 people attending the two day conference. Our first conference was held in 1999 and there were 77 participants in attendance.

This year's conference was held March 13 & 14 at the KI Convention Center in Green Bay. Many attendees came from different areas of Wisconsin. Some people came from as far away as Minnesota, Illinois, Michigan, Florida, Arizona, Missouri, and Canada to attend the conference.

### Speakers included:

Rick Benson (Florida)	Dennis McNeilly (Nebraska)
Arnie Wexler (New Jersey)	David Hodgins (Calgary, Canada)
Jeff Miller ( Wisconsin)	James Walsh (Delaware)
Renee Siegel (Arizona)	Dan Smith ( Missouri)
LaTrice Hambright (Pennsylvania)	

### Topics included:

Preventing Relapse, The Adolescent Developing Brain and Addictions, Understanding Older Adult Gamblers, Assessing Problem Gambling, Self-Care for Counselors, Women in Gambling, Motivational Interviewing, Miracles in Recovery, Families Recovering Together, Cultural Diversity and Gambling Addiction, and Gambling and Domestic Violence. For the first time a pre-conference session "Drumming a Cross Cultural Healing for Gamblers and Other Addicts" was held.

**Overall it was a great success and we look forward to the 2009 Conference that will be held March 19th & 20th at the Kalahari in Wisconsin Dells.**

**We hope to see you there!**



**WISCONSIN COUNCIL  
ON PROBLEM GAMBLING**

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Helpline/Training Coordinator—Cheri Braley  
Conference Coordinator/  
Administrative Assistant -Renee Salamonski



### WELCOME

We would like to send a heartfelt welcome to Jim Lewis, who recently joined the Board of Directors for the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling.

# Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling Conference Edition-Spring 2008

The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling would like to thank the following for their generous contributions toward the Tenth Annual WCPG Statewide Conference:

## Major Sponsors:

\* Potawatomi Bingo Casino \* Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians/Lake of the Torches Resort Casino \* Stockbridge-Munsee Community \* Oneida Casino \* Horicon State Bank \* St. Croix Casino and Hotel \* Wisconsin State Lottery

## Other Contributors

\* Bankers Advertising Company \* Paul Roznowski - Creative Promotions \* Mary Dale \* Forest County Potawatomi Community \* Friend of the Council \* Golden Corral \* Green Bay Packers \* Hansen's Dairy & Deli \* Hawkins, Ash & Baptie & Company, LLP \* Heavenly Ham \* Jitterbean Coffee & Ice Cream Café \* Leonard & Finco Public Relations \* Lindeman Cleaners \* Menards \* Milwaukee Brewers \* Nikki's Cookies \* Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co. \* Prime Time Printing \* Residence Inn \* Schreiber Foods \* Schroeder Flowers, Inc \* Smuckers Specialty Foods Co. \* Wine Premiere \* Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling \* WS Packaging

## Award Recipients

Awards were given to the following individuals who have gone above and beyond in helping the Council achieve its mission of education and promoting public awareness of problem gambling and disorder of compulsive gambling.

### The Special Recognition Award:

This award went to Alice Byrnes for the support and friendship that she has given the Council in perpetuating the council's goals and mission.

### The Outstanding Volunteer Award:

This award was given to Diana Abelt who has shown long term devotion and unending support of the Council and has volunteered countless hours toward helping the mission of the WCPG.

Special recognition awards were also presented to a number of other key supporters of the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling, including:

*Potawatomi Bingo Casino  
Forest County Potawatomi Community Foundation  
Oneida Tribe of Indians  
Oneida Casino  
Lac du Flambeau/Lake of the Torches Casino  
State of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Lottery*

### The Leadership Award:

This award was given to Doug LaBelle who has shown outstanding leadership in the compulsive gambling field.

### The Spirit Award:

This award was given to Robert McGuigan for his true spirit that is reflected in his passion, concern, and creativity in his personal and community life, and in his interest in the compulsive gambling field. This award is in honor of his outstanding contributions and excellence in support of WCPG.

*Ho-Chunk nation  
Menominee Casino Bingo Hotel  
Charlie Leonard  
State Sen. Dave Hansen  
State Rep Carol Owens*

## Many Thanks

Many thanks to all of you who helped make this year's conference a success; your effort and expertise are greatly appreciated. Special thanks to Cheri Braley, Renee Salamonski, Frieda Tuross, Peggy Schlapman, Chris Gruber, Barb Scray, Nancy Baker, Susie VanderGeeten, Cathy Allen-Schneider, Kathy Diny, Judy Ramsey, Mark Wesenberg, Maynard & Carolyn Zima, James Bolek, Pat Jirovitz, Kami Blatter, John Sams, Kathy Diny, Carolyn Bickel, and Jacque Turner.

Thank you to Rick Benson, Dr. David Hodgins, Jeff Miller, Dan Smith, Arnie Wexler, Dr. Ken Winters, LaTrice Hambright, Dr. Dennis McNeilly, Renee Siegel, and Dr. James Walsh for sharing your knowledge with us. Thank you to everyone who contributed so much heart, soul and elbow grease to the conference. We couldn't have done it without you.



## Rose's Thank You

The Tenth Annual Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling Statewide Conference was held on March 13 and 14, 2008. We appreciate all the support the WCPG receives for the conference and throughout the year.

The staff and Board of Directors of the WCPG would like to offer a huge "Thank you" to the State of Wisconsin for making the conference possible. A big thanks goes to all of the other conference sponsors who helped to make our Tenth Annual Statewide Conference a great success. We are also thankful for everyone who provided scholarships to the conference. Scholarships help to provide opportunities for people to attend who might otherwise not be able to do so.

We are so grateful to all of our volunteers who helped us before and during the conference. Our volunteers give countless hours and help in hundreds of ways. Another thank you goes to conference presenters, exhibitors, and participants for their part in making this conference a success.

My heartfelt thanks goes out to everyone that helped in any way to make our Tenth Annual Conference a success. Your participation continues to help compulsive gamblers and their families find the assistance they need as they deal with this debilitating addiction.

Just a reminder— planning has begun for next year's conference, which will be held at the Kalahari in Wisconsin Dells on March 19 and 20, 2009. Save the dates!

A million thanks to you all,

Rose Gruber

WCPG Executive Director



### 24 Hour Helpline

The Helpline received 1434 calls in January 2008. This is a record high for the Helpline. February had 1110 calls. Our website had 654 hits in January, and 653 in February. The average web hits for 2007 was 412 so we are off to a very busy 2008.

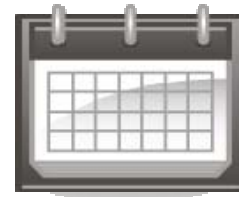
### CONGRATULATIONS

We would like to congratulate Arnie Wexler for his 40th year bet free on April 10, 2008. Arnie was a recent presenter at the WCPG Conference.

## Mark your calendars for these other upcoming events



Contact WCPG for details:  
920-437-8888  
wcpgamble5@new.rr.com



### Milwaukee Phase 1 & 2 Trainings

Phase 1 Training—May 15 & 16, 2008

Phase 2 Training—June 5 & 6, 2008

For more information please call or e-mail  
920-437-8888

### Green Bay Phase 3 & 4 Trainings

DATE	TRAIN-ING	LOCATION	Registration Deadline
September 11-12, 2008	Phase 3	1423 Kellogg St Green Bay, WI	September 3, 2008
October 9-10, 2008	Phase 4	1423 Kellogg St Green Bay, WI	October 1, 2008

#### National Council on Problem Gambling

The National Council on Problem Gambling and the California Council on Problem Gambling invite you to attend the 22nd Annual Conference on Problem Gambling in beautiful Southern California.

Please check the National Council's website ([www.ncpgambling.org](http://www.ncpgambling.org)) or the California Council's website ([www.calproblemgambling.org](http://www.calproblemgambling.org)) for 2008 Conference information,

**Hyatt Regency Hotel**  
200 S. Pine Ave  
Long Beach, CA 90802  
June 26-28, 2008

#### National Rural Institute on Alcohol and Drug Abuse

NRADAN will be holding its 24th Annual Conference on **June 1-5, 2008** in Menomonie, WI. 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. **This conference offers a gambling track and scholarships are available.** For more information visit their website: <http://www.uwstout.edu/outreach/conf/nri/>

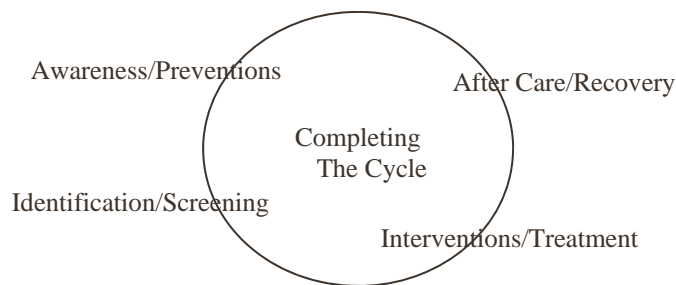
## The MidCentral Alliance

Announces the Fall 2008 Mid Central Conference on  
Problem Gambling and Counseling Issues  
September 17-19, 2008  
Drawbridge Inn, Ft. Mitchell, Kentucky

This Alliance is made up of the following Councils:

The Illinois Council on Problem Gambling  
The Indiana Council on Problem Gambling  
The Kentucky Council on Problem Gambling  
The Michigan Council on Problem Gambling  
The Ohio Council on Problem Gambling  
The West Virginia Council on Problem Gambling  
The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling

Registration starts on May 1, 2008 at [www.kycpg.org](http://www.kycpg.org)  
Registration fees for members of any NCPG-affiliated council is \$60.  
Registration fees for non-members is \$90.



### Mini-Grant Applications

The WCPG is currently accepting mini-grant applications for community-based public awareness projects for the 2008-2009 grant year. The grants are generally between \$2,000 and \$5,000. To be considered, projects must meet the following qualifications:

- \* Be tax-exempt pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code 501 © and have an IRS determination letter.
- \* Serve the people of Wisconsin.
- \* Operate, choose a governing board, and provide services without discrimination on the basis of race, religion, sex, age, sexual preference or national origin.
- \* Applying organizations must maintain neutrality on the issue of legalized gambling.

The mini-grant will serve as an enhancement to the statewide public awareness campaign being provided by the WCPG. These grants are for groups, organizations or agencies that are interested in promoting public awareness for compulsive gambling in their community. Public awareness can be broadly defined, but the proposal needs to be directed to Wisconsin residents and support the WCPG mission of educating the public about problem gambling and the resources available to address these issues.

For an application and more information, contact us at (920)437-8888 or [wcpgamble5@new.rr.com](mailto:wcpgamble5@new.rr.com).

**The mini-grant application deadline is July 31, 2008.**

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## WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON PROBLEM GAMBLING

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Green Bay, WI 54303  
Phone: (920)437-8888  
Fax: (920)437-8995

**SPECIAL  
CONFERENCE NEWS-  
LETTER:**

**THANK YOU!**

Many thanks to everyone who helped make this year's conference a big success.

**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 Cheri at (920)437-8888 or email her at:  
[wcpgamble5-cheri@new.rr.com](mailto:wcpgamble5-cheri@new.rr.com)

### 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](mailto:wcpgamble5-cheri@new.rr.com).

**Minds are like parachutes. They only function when they are open.**

Sir James Dewar, Scientist (1877-1925)rb