



As gambling options grow, so does problem gambling
17th annual problem gambling conference set for March in Waukesha

INTERVIEWS available prior to and during the conference

For Immediate

Release

February 23, 2016

(Green Bay, Wis.) – Throughout the country, gambling has become an accepted part of the social landscape. From lotteries and fantasy sports to casinos and Internet wagering, betting options are abundant. But as gambling has grown, so has problem gambling, which will be a focus of the **17th Annual Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling Statewide Conference**. It takes place **March 10-11, 2016 at the Milwaukee Marriott West** in Waukesha.

“Every year, calls to our helpline continue to go up from gamblers as well as concerned family members and friends,” explains Rose Gruber, executive director of the [Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling](#). For a segment of the population, gambling is an addiction that can seriously impact the gambler as well as his or her family, friends and workplace,” said

The theme for this year’s statewide conference is...“Riding the Riptide of Change Through Gambling and Co-Occurring Disorders.” Conference speakers and panelists will cover a range of topics, including:

- The effects of advertising on gambling clients in treatment
- Gaming VS Gambling
- Gambling and the family
- Gambling issues then (1999) and now (2016)

“This is a tremendous opportunity for us to draw attention to a serious issue that’s affecting the lives of a number of our state residents,” Gruber added.

Anyone interested in problem or compulsive gambling is invited to attend the conference. In particular, the information and discussion will be valuable for those active in treating, preventing or researching problem gambling, including criminal justice staff, educators, clergy, tribal and government officials, human resource and employee assistance professionals, gambling industry personnel, compulsive gamblers and their family members, and others.

For the problem gambling conference brochure, visit

<http://wi-problemgamblers.org/conferencetraining/wcpg-annual-conference>.

###

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 the [Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling](http://www.wisconsin-council.org) website, visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/WisconsinCouncilonProblemGambling or follow us on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/wcpgambling>

If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, call the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-800-GAMBLE-5 or Live Chat through the WCPG website at www.wi-problemgamblers.org.

Media Contact:

Scott Stein

Leonard & Finco Public Relations

(920) 676-0711

sstein@LFpublicrelations.com