



WCPG adds a Recovery Committee

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SPOKESPERSON: *Available for comment*

Rose Blozinski, Executive Director, Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling, 1-920-437-8888

(Green Bay, WI) – The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling felt the need for a Recovery Committee. This committee consist of seven people from different areas in WI. “The goal of the Recovery Committee is to work in collaboration with the treatment and recovery communities (i.e. therapeutic treatment programs and support groups) as well as the individual to provide education and resource availability for the problem gambler as well as those affected by problem gambling. In addition, to identify and work to reduce barriers to treatment and resources for those affected by problem gambling,” said Rose Blozinski, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling (WCPG).

Blozinski says the estimated national social cost to families and communities due to bankruptcy, divorce, job loss, home loss, and criminal justice costs associated with problem gambling is \$6.7 billion each year. “Family, friends and co-workers usually don’t recognize that there is a problem until it’s taken a huge financial toll on the gambler.”

If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, call the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-800-GAMBLE-5, Text at 1-850-888-HOPE or Live Chat through the WCPG website at 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 1-850-888-HOPE Textline, and Chat available on www.wi-problemgamblers.org, 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.*