



Signs of Problem Gambling

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SPOKESPERSON: *Available for comment*

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For Immediate Release

(Green Bay, WI) – Approximately 333,000 Wisconsin residents are problem gamblers. Not only does problem gambling shatter the lives of men, women and their families, it results in economic loss to American society.

“It is called the hidden addiction since there is no breath odor nor stumbling of steps or speech,” said Rose Blozinski, WCPG Executive Director. “It can be as debilitating as an alcohol or drug addiction. Awareness is an important part of heading off problems before they get too far.” Blozinski says the problem gambler may become obsessed or overpowered by the urge to gamble.

“As a state advocate for problem gamblers and their families, the WCPG encourages everyone to know the signs of problem gambling. WCPG is neutral on legalized gambling,” said Blozinski.

Signs of a gambling problem:

- Gambling made you careless of the welfare of yourself or your family
- Borrowing money to gamble
- Preoccupied with thoughts of gambling
- Missing work due to gambling
- Gambling causes trouble at home
- Sold personal belongings to finance your gambling
- Gambled longer than planned
- Committed illegal act to finance your gambling

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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 1-920-888-Help 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 / 1-920-888-HELP Text line, 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.*

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