

According to the Nation Council on Problem Gambling

- Crimes by compulsive gamblers place an increased stress on the legal and court system.
- Suicide rates are 20 times higher among pathological gamblers.
- 65% of compulsive gamblers commit crimes to finance their gambling.
- 6-20% of adolescents develop gambling problems.
- People who have other addictions are at a higher risk of becoming addicted to gambling.
- Senior citizens and adolescents are at high risk to become addicted to gambling.
- 2 million (1%) of U.S. adults are estimated to meet criteria for gambling disorder in a given year. Another 4-6 million (2-3%) would be considered problem gamblers.



The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling

- Provides workshops and seminars on gambling awareness and education. Speakers are available for large and small groups.
- Provides training for treatment providers.
- Is one of 33 affiliates on the National Council on Problem Gambling in Washington, D.C.
- Maintains neutrality on the topic of legalized gambling.
- Is the only organization in Wisconsin dedicated to assisting thousands of problem and compulsive gamblers.
- Offers a 24-hour Helpline.

Help is just a call away

1-800-GAMBLE-5

(1-800-426-2535)

Or Text 920-799-4080

(1-920-888-4357)



Scan this QR code with your smart phone to view our website where you can **chat live**.



WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON PROBLEM GAMBLING, INC.
1585 ALLOUEZ AVENUE
GREEN BAY, WI 54311
Phone: 920-437-8888 Fax: 920-437-8995
E-mail: wcp@wi-problemgamblers.org
www.wi-problemgamblers.org



**WISCONSIN COUNCIL
ON PROBLEM GAMBLING**

Problem Gambling and the Judicial System



The WCPG provides resources, public awareness and education on gambling disorders while maintaining strict neutrality on the issue of legalized gambling.



Many compulsive gamblers are homeless, hundreds of thousands of dollars in debt, may have filed bankruptcy, committed illegal acts or attempted suicide. They are not the only ones affected by their addiction. The gambling addiction affects families, friends and employers.

Gambling Affects Everyone

- Approximately 333,000 Wisconsin residents have a gambling problem.
- Compulsive gamblers are more likely not to pay their taxes.
- 13,081 people called the WCPG Helpline in 2016 as compared to 4,742 in 1999.
- In 2016, the average debt of the Helpline callers was: \$38,090
- Female gamblers calling the WCPG 24-hour Helpline have increased 33% since 1996.
- Calls to WCPG 24-hour Helpline have increased 328% since 1996.



What can you do?

The next time some of the “facts” just don’t add up, take a closer look at the patterns of your client's life.

- Make the referral to the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling’s 24-hour Helpline.
- Encourage gamblers and their family/friends to attend a GA or Gam-Anon meeting.
- Have patience.
- Listen.
- Be positive.
- Do not criticize.
- Understand that relapse can be part of the recovery process.

The gambler who borrows to play is no longer a recreational gambler.

Did you know that problem gamblers:

- May lie about their gambling?
- May hide their losses?
- May chase losses?
- May gamble in spite of the consequences?
- May borrow money to gamble with?
- May deplete savings and insurance?
- May use gambling as a coping mechanism?

