

Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling, Inc.

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# Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling's 26th Annual Statewide Conference

## "Traveling Into the Future Through Awareness, Education, and Prevention"

March 20-21, 2025

Pre-Conference  
March 19th

- ♦ Ethics Training 4 CEUs
- ♦ Clinical Supervision 6 CEUs
- ♦ Earn up to 22 CEUs

Travel with us to:  
**Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center**  
3060 S Kinney Coulee Road  
Onalaska, WI 54650

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Online registration and payments are available  
on our website: [wi-problemgamblers.org](http://wi-problemgamblers.org)

## "Traveling Into the Future Through Awareness, Education, and Prevention"

### Who Should Attend?

- ♦ Persons involved in problem gambling research, treatment and/or prevention
- ♦ Criminal Justice Personnel
- ♦ Employee Assistance Personnel
- ♦ Mental Health Professionals, Social Workers and Addiction Counselors
- ♦ Human Resource Personnel
- ♦ Elected and Non-Elected Tribal Officials
- ♦ Elected State and Municipal Officials
- ♦ Gaming Industry Personnel
- ♦ Educators and Students
- ♦ Clergy
- ♦ Problem/Compulsive Gamblers
- ♦ Friends and Family Members of Problem/Compulsive Gamblers

### Why Should You Attend?

The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling, Inc. Annual Statewide Conference is a wonderful opportunity to bring together a great variety of people who have contact with problem gamblers in Wisconsin. This annual event provides connections to some of the leading experts in the gambling disorder treatment field. The conference is designed for anyone concerned about problem gambling in Wisconsin, including those active in treating, preventing, or researching gambling disorders.

**MISSION STATEMENT:** The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling, Inc. provides resources, public awareness, and education on gambling disorders while maintaining strict neutrality on the issue of legalized gambling.

**Continuing Education Units:**

Participants can earn up to 22 CEUs with attendance to the Pre-Conference and Full Conference. We will be applying for CEU certifications through the Association for Addiction Professionals (NAADAC), Employee Assistance Certification Commission (EACC), International Gambling Counselor Certification Board (IGCCB), Wisconsin Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (WAMFT), and National Association of Social Workers (NASW). All participants will receive a certificate of attendance within 6 weeks of the Conference.



**Scholarships:**

A limited number of scholarships are available, including the Susan Hengst Scholarship for recovering gamblers and the Richard Stanchfield Scholarship. The deadline for scholarship applications is February 15th, 2025. Applications are available on our website.

**Exhibitor Information:**

Individuals and organizations wishing to give their organization additional visibility within the problem gambling field may register as exhibitors. The deadline for registration is February 19th, 2025. The cost for one table is \$175, which includes registration for one person to accompany your booth and take part in conference presentations and meals during the event. Exhibitor applications are available on our website.

**Accommodations:**

A limited number of rooms are available on a first-come/first-serve basis. Deadline for room reservations is Wednesday, February 19th, 2025, to be eligible for the conference rate of \$90.00 (plus tax) per night. There is no guarantee if made after February 19th, 2025. To reserve your room, call Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center at 608-781-3060 and refer to the WCPG Conference (Group Code 25WICPG). All reservations must be guaranteed by credit card or advance deposit. Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center is located at 3060 S Kinney Coulee Road, Onalaska, WI 54650.

**Registration Information:**

Pre-Registration is required. If you plan to attend Ethics, you **MUST** check the Ethics box listed on the registration form to participate in the presentation. (limited seating).

A **\$25.00** administration fee will be charged for conference registration cancellations. Absolutely no cancellation refunds after March 3rd, 2025. For additional brochures, directions, accommodation information, or any other additional information, please contact the WCPG.

Wednesday, March 19, 2025	
7:00am-3:30pm	Registration Open
8:00am-12:00pm	Disordered Gambling: A Combination of Fantasy & Cognitive Distortion
9:00am-4:00pm	The Basics of Clinical Supervision
1:00pm-5:00pm	Ethics in the Clinical Relationship

• **Disordered Gambling: A Combination of Fantasy & Cognitive Distortion**

*Jerry Bauerkemper, BS, CDGC, Problem Gambling Services Consultant - Iowa Problem Gambling - Iowa Problem Gambling Services, Galveston Island, Tx*

Disordered gambling isn't just about wagering and losing. The mind of the gambler is filled with fantasy and cognitive distortions. Understanding how the disordered gambling mind works and the desires and needs of the gambler help determine a treatment plan that can be more successful.

• **The Basics of Clinical Supervision**

*Karen Edens, BA, MPH, Edens Group Training Center, St. Paul, MN*

Ethics and ethical practice have both been long-standing competencies required of helping professionals. Ethical practice is often challenged when resolving an ethical dilemma or compromise. Helping professionals need a critical decision-making model that can be integrated into daily practice. This session will highlight the core values of ethical practice and provide an effective critical decision-making model that can be adapted to ethical concerns often encountered in the helping professions.

• **Ethics in the Clinical Relationship**

*Mark Sanders, LCSW, CADC, On The Mark Consulting, Chicago, IL*

Topics covered in this skill-building workshop include: principles which guide ethical decision making ; diagnosis and ethics; strength-based ethical practice; the ethical use of evidence-based practices; the ethics of boundaries, physical touch, self-disclosure, and verbal communication; ending helping relationships in an ethical manner; ethics and online counseling.

**TWENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON PROBLEM GAMBLING STATEWIDE CONFERENCE**

(Only one person may register per form. Please photocopy for additional registrations. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

**\*\*If there are 3 or more people attending from one organization each will receive \$10 off their registration fees\*\***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Meals:  Regular  Vegetarian

Pre-Registration Is Required.

**Registration Checklist:**

Please have the following completed for your Conference Registration:

- Completed application form
- Meal selection (**Regular/Vegetarian**)
- Awards Banquet attendance
- Ethics attendance (**check box below if attending**)
- Membership submission if desired
- Payment

**EAP Continuing Education**

**AWARDS BANQUET: Thursday, March 20, 2025 6:00pm - 9:00pm**

I will attend  I will not attend  \$30.00 Non-registered Banquet Guest

*(The Full Conference and Thursday Only Rates include the Awards Banquet at no additional cost, but you must register in advance.)*

RATES BEFORE 2/19/25:	RATES AFTER 2/19/25:	Please check if you plan to attend Ethics: <input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> \$35.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40.00	Pre-Conference Ethics - <b>Workshop Only</b> (March 19, 1:00pm-5:00pm) "Ethics in the Clinical Relationship" - Mark Sanders INCLUDED IN FULL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35.00	Pre-Conference (March 19, 8:00am-12:00pm) "Disordered Gambling: A Combination of Fantasy & Cognitive Distortion" - Jerry Bauerkemper
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$55.00	Pre-Conference (March 19, 9:00am-4:00pm) "The Basics of Clinical Supervision" - Karen Edens
<input type="checkbox"/> \$150.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175.00	Full Conference Rate (NOT INCLUDING PRE-CONFERENCE)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$175.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$205.00	Full Conference AND Pre-Conference presentation "Disordered Gambling: A Combination of Fantasy & Cognitive Distortion" - Jerry Bauerkemper
<input type="checkbox"/> \$195.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$225.00	Full Conference AND Pre-Conference presentation "The Basics of Clinical Supervision" - Karen Edens
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$125.00	Thursday Only OR Friday Only (Please circle choice)

- All rates include breaks.
- Lunch included with Thursday and Friday registration.
- **EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 19, 2025**

**Your WCPG Bronze level or higher Membership saves you money:**

Renew your Bronze Membership or join now and save \$35 off Full Conference Registration!

**Membership Fee: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**  
(\$75.00 or more for discount)

**Conference Fee: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Membership Discount: (\$35.00)**

**TOTAL Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Please make check or money order payable to:

**Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling, Inc. (WCPG)**  
**Mail to: 1585 Allouez Avenue**  
**Green Bay, WI 54311**

**Now accepting online registration and credit card payments!**

Please include your email address when registering. We will email all correspondence and CEU Certificates.

If you register without an email address, you will receive correspondence via mail to the address provided.

**\*\*Please visit our website at [wi-problemgamblers.org](http://wi-problemgamblers.org) to view the biographies of our Presenters\*\***

## Thursday and Friday Workshops Continued

- **Groups: Therapy, Recovery, Support and Fun**

*James Harrison, MS, CSAC, LPC, ICGC-II, BACC, Lifestance Health, Brookfield, WI*

This workshop is designed to discuss and share the dynamics, composition, activities and facilitation of groups as a therapy tool. Topics to be discussed are: the purpose of groups, composition of groups, how to select group topics, group rules and ethics, and the mechanics of group presentation and facilitation.

In addition to discussion, workshop participants will have the opportunity and privilege to take on the roles of group facilitators and group members in actual group settings.

The session will continue, highlighting counseling techniques, strategies, and potential problems that may arise in group and how to handle and deal with these problems and issues. This will be a more in-depth approach to group presentations and facilitation.

The final portion of the workshop will incorporate what was previously discussed into practical application and role-playing activities. Session members will take on the roles of group facilitators and/or group members.

- **Self-Help Groups: There's an Option for Everyone**

*Marc Lefkowitz, ICGC-II, Prescott House Inpatient Gambling Treatment Program, Prescott, AZ*

Although Gamblers Anonymous and Gam-Anon have been helping gamblers and their families for over 65 years, they are not for everyone. Many people seeking self-help groups can be turned off by their spiritual content. There are now many new options that include: Smart Recovery, Bettors Anonymous, Celebrate Recovery, Recovery Dharma, Gamblersinrecovery.com, and others. Although most are spiritually based, there are secular options. This workshop will explore the similarities and differences of each program and how to help clients find a meeting suitable to their personal views.



- **Gambling Behaviors and Challenges Among Incarcerated Individuals and Criminal Justice Populations**

*Andrew J. Schreier, ICS, CSAC, LPC, BACC, ICGC-II, Community Medical Services & New Life Resources, Inc., Menomonee Falls, WI*

This presentation delves into the complex relationship between gambling and populations related to incarcerated individuals and those involved in the criminal justice system. Gambling addiction is a lesser-discussed issue within these populations, yet it significantly impacts both individuals and the institutions they interact with. Attendees will gain a deeper understanding of the prevalence and patterns of gambling within correctional settings, the psychological and social challenges it poses, and the interventions available to mitigate its impact. The session will also address the role of gambling in recidivism and rehabilitation efforts, highlighting opportunities for effective treatment and support.

- **Managing Workplace Gambling: Effective Strategies for Organizations**

*James Schreier, Ph.D., SPHR, Independent Consultant, Beyond the Far Cliffs, West Allis, WI*

Workplace gambling is an increasingly relevant issue that can have serious consequences for organizations, including reduced productivity, employee conflicts, and legal liabilities. This 75-minute interactive workshop will help HR professionals, managers, and counselors understand the importance of having clear policies, procedures, and rules in place to address gambling at work. Attendees will also learn how to train supervisors and employees to recognize, prevent, and manage gambling-related issues in a supportive and productive way.

- **Psychotherapy and the Addictions, Including Problem Gambling**

*Jim Schwartz, LCSW, CSAC, Silver Spring Psychotherapy Associates, Milwaukee, WI*

This workshop presents an overall view of the psychotherapy of addictions, including problem gamblers. It will include several case presentations that highlight various aspects of psychotherapy that can help problem gamblers understand and control their gambling problem.

## Thursday, March 20, 2025

7:00am-4:00pm	Registration Open
8:00am	Welcome
8:00am-9:15am	Keynote #1
9:15am-9:30am	Break
9:30am-10:45am	Workshops #1
10:45am-11:00am	Break
11:00am-12:15pm	Workshops #2
12:15pm-1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm-2:30pm	Keynote #2
2:30pm-2:45pm	Break
2:45pm-4:00pm	Workshops #3
4:15pm-5:15pm	Open GA & Gam-Anon Meetings
6:00pm-9:00pm	Awards Banquet

### 8:00am: Welcome

- **Rose Blozinski, Executive Director of the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling**

### 8:00am - 9:15am: Keynote

- **What Does the Science Say About Effective Gambling Services? Ten Considerations for Innovating What You Do and How You Do It**

*Scott Caldwell, MA, MSOD, Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Madison, WI*

What you do and how you do it in everyday services matters. Distilling two decades of research, we will consider ten actionable, evidence-informed ways to improve gambling services. Whether you are a therapist seeking to better integrate gambling screening and intervention into your routine services or you are part of an agency currently providing a range of gambling services, this presentation will inspire innovation. With a mix of didactic presentation and experiential activities, all will be engaged in considering ways to improve services and identifying a next right step.

### 9:30am - 10:45am: Workshops

- **Intersection of Gambling and Suicidal Ideation: Barb Bigalke**
- **Self-Help Groups: There's an Option for Everyone: Marc Lefkowitz**
- **Psychotherapy and the Addictions, Including Problem Gambling: Jim Schwartz**

### 11:00am - 12:15pm: Workshops

- **Intimate Partner Domestic Violence and Gambling Disorder: Michael Goldman**
- **Groups: Therapy, Recovery, Support and Fun: Jim Harrison**
- **Managing Workplace Gambling: Effective Strategies for Organizations: Dr. James Schreier**

### 1:00pm - 2:30pm Keynote

- **Grief and Recovery: Similarities and Differences Between Substance Abuse and Gambling**

*Jerry Bauerkemper, BS, CDGC, Problem Gambling Services Consultant - Iowa Problem Gambling - Iowa Problem Gambling Services, Galveston Island, Tx*

Grief is an important topic for recovery of SUD and disordered gambling. This presentation compares and contrasts grief and the process of recovery in SUD and disordered gambling. The presentation will look at the love relationship of addiction and how it manifests itself in SUD and disordered gambling. We will also look at the process of grief in disordered gambling and SUD and the similarities and differences in the two addictions.

### 2:45pm - 4:00pm: Workshops

- **Fantasy and Cognitive Distortion: Barriers to Financial Recovery with Disordered Gamblers: Jerry Bauerkemper**
- **Nothing Changes in Services Without Leadership: Scott Caldwell**
- **Gambling Behaviors and Challenges Among Incarcerated Individuals and Criminal Justice Populations: Andrew Schreier**

**Friday, March 21, 2025**

7:00am-4:00pm	Registration Open
8:00am	Welcome
8:00am-9:15am	Keynote #3
9:15am-9:30am	Break
9:30am-10:45am	Workshops #4
10:45am-11:00am	Break
11:00am-12:15pm	Workshops #5
12:15pm-1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm-2:30pm	Keynote #4
2:30pm-2:45pm	Break
2:45pm-4:00pm	Workshops #6

**8:00am: Welcome**

- **Rose Blozinski, Executive Director, Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling**

**8:00am - 9:15am: Keynote**

- **How We Speak Matters: Undoing Stigmatizing Language**

*Andrew J. Schreier, ICS, CSAC, LPC, BACC, ICGC-II, Community Medical Services & New Life Resources, Inc., Menomonee Falls, WI*

How we speak about individuals is how we treat them. The use of language is vital when it comes to prevention, education, treatment, and recovery from those experiencing problems with substance use, mental health, gambling and other areas of need. The use of some language continues to be outdated, not based on clinical application, stigmatizing, and even harmful. Using these types of words can impact someone not seeking help, disengaging in services, discouraging progress, and feelings of humiliation and shame. There is a need to incorporate ways to undo stigmatizing words and utilize new language to foster safe environments.

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The WCPG’s public awareness campaign is funded in part by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Care and Treatment Services

**9:30am - 10:45am: Workshops**

- **Fantasy and Cognitive Distortion: Barriers to Financial Recovery with Disordered Gamblers: Jerry Bauerkemper**
- **Self-Help Groups: There’s an Option for Everyone: Marc Lefkowitz**
- **Managing Workplace Gambling: Effective Strategies for Organizations: Dr. James Schreier**

**11:00am - 12:15pm: Workshops**

- **Groups: Therapy, Recovery, Support and Fun: Jim Harrison**
- **Psychotherapy and the Addictions, Including Problem Gambling: Jim Schwartz**
- **Gambling Behaviors and Challenges Among Incarcerated Individuals and Criminal Justice Populations: Andrew Schreier**

**1:00pm - 2:30pm: Keynote**

- **Sports Betting, Terminology and Recovery**  
*Marc Lefkowitz, ICGC-II, Prescott House Inpatient Gambling Treatment Program, Prescott, AZ*

This workshop will begin with a history of gambling and sports betting, and continue with the impact on recovery, professional sports, culture, and society. Sports betting terminology will be defined and discussed. The workshop will conclude with strategies to minimize harm to people recovering from a gambling disorder.

**2:45pm - 4:00pm: Workshops**

- **Intersection of Gambling and Suicidal Ideation: Barb Bigalke**
- **Nothing Changes in Services Without Leadership: Scott Caldwell**
- **Intimate Partner Domestic Violence and Gambling Disorder: Michael Goldman**

**Awards Banquet - Thursday 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm**

**Special Presentation During the Awards Banquet**

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*Facilitated by Jim Harrison, MS, CSAC, LPC, ICGC-II, and BACC*

**JK’s Latin Vibe Steel Drum Band**

This 60-minute program will be educational as well as entertaining. Attendees will have the opportunity to be part of the band, taught how to play steel drums, and perform with the band. This activity will allow attendees to immerse themselves in the various cultures and for a time be part of that culture. It will allow the counselor and therapist to identify with something that they may not be familiar with and develop a better understanding of a client from that culture. It is often expressed to our clients that there are many “recovery activities one can be part of that are not specifically recovery related activities”, such as going to meetings, formal counseling sessions, as well as others. Cultural diversity and ethnicity training and activities can be part of one’s new recovery program.

**Thursday and Friday Workshops**

The following is a list of the workshops and their descriptions that will be presented throughout the Conference. The scheduled times are listed on the previous pages.

- **Fantasy and Cognitive Distortion: Barriers to Financial Recovery with Disordered Gamblers**

*Jerry Bauerkemper, BS, CDGC, Problem Gambling Services Consultant - Iowa Problem Gambling - Iowa Problem Gambling Services, Galveston Island, Tx*

This workshop will define how fantasy and cognitive distortions promote financial despair and contribute to the patients gambling disorder as well as how these distortions reduce the success of recovery if not addressed in early stages of treatment. Completing a financial assessment and beginning a budget is many times essential in early recovery, and yet, patients inability to determine healthy financial goals and objectives can block any recovery paths.

- **Intersection of Gambling and Suicidal Ideation**

*Barb Bigalke, MS, CCLS, CTP, CPS, Center for Suicide Awareness, Kaukauna, WI*

It is important to bring awareness to a difficult topic, like suicide, with facts and resources but also with some humor and fun. In this session you will learn why suicide may be seductive to someone who is gambling, risk factors and warning signs associated with suicide, and how to help someone who may be struggling or having suicidal thoughts. You will leave with information, resources and potentially some new tools for your own mental wellness toolkit.

- **Nothing Changes in Services Without Leadership**

*Scott Caldwell, MA, MSOD, Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Madison, WI*

For the purpose of this session, leadership is widely defined to include those who are authorized leaders (managers, supervisors, administrators, directors) as well as those who are unauthorized leaders (change agents, champions of innovation, opinion leaders). We will start with identifying characteristics and behaviors of effective change leaders. Then, we will consider six proven steps of effective organizational change (sometimes steps are missed or skipped). Finally, leaders will have an opportunity to consider a potential innovation in your organization’s services and apply learning to create an initial change plan. Leaders will come away inspired and ready to take an actionable step forward.

- **Intimate Partner Domestic Violence and Gambling Disorder**

*Michael Goldman, MA, LPC, CRADC, PCGC, CEAP, SAP, Glenview, IL*

The purpose of this training is to examine why intimate partner domestic violence (IPDV) occurs, its impact on the family, how this interfaces with people with gambling disorders and what can be done about it.

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The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling would like to thank Potawatomi Casino Hotel for their ongoing support.