

Deadline Extended for Problem Gambling Awareness Grants

For Immediate Release

August 16, 2010

(Green Bay, Wis.) -- The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling (WCPG) will take applications for grants for projects to increase awareness of problem and compulsive gambling and the services available to help those in need through August 31, 2010. The grants will range from \$2,000 - \$5,000 per project. \

“Each time we find a new way to tell state residents about the problem gambling and the resources available, we’ve seen a corresponding increase in calls to our Helpline,” said Rose Gruber, WCPG Executive Director. “These grants, which are funded by a state grant, help us spread the word in new and different ways to people throughout Wisconsin.”

Under the grant application guidelines, public awareness is broadly defined, but Gruber says WCPG is seeking innovative, collaborative projects that address diversity and leverage the resources provided. The projects must:

- be directed to Wisconsin residents,
- support WCPG’s mission of providing resources, public awareness and education on problem and pathological gambling disorders and the resources available to address these issues,
- adhere to WCPG’s policy of neutrality on the issue of legalized gambling,
- include defined project outcomes and ways to measure and report those outcomes.

Gruber notes that the grants cannot be used for counseling services.

“We’re looking for creative ways of getting the word out that there are resources available and problem gamblers do have a place to turn to get help. We’ve found that local organizations can be very creative in developing and managing public awareness programs in their communities,” Gruber said. “We are pleased to be able to offer grants to help them with these programs.”

Applications for the grants are available from the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling Council by contacting WCPG at 1-800-GAMBLE-5. Applicants should be 501(c)3 tax-exempt organizations, serving the residents of Wisconsin and operating with a governing board and providing services without discrimination on the basis of race, religion, sex, age, sexual preference or national origin.

###

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 www.wi-problemgamblers.org. Become a fan of WCPG's Facebook Fan Page, search for "Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling" when logged into Facebook.

If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, call the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-800-GAMBLE-5 for confidential help.

Media Contact:

Scott Stein
Leonard & Finco Public Relations
(920) 965-7750
sstein@LFpublicrelations.com