



The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling Joins the 2023 Gift Responsibly Campaign to Raise Awareness of Youth Gambling Risks

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Green Bay, WI – The Wisconsin Council on Problem gambling today announced its commitment as a participant of the 2023 Gift Responsibly Campaign, joining lotteries and community organizations across North America and around the world to raise awareness about the risks of underage lottery use. The campaign is organized by the [National Council on Problem Gambling](#) (NCPG) and the [International Center for Youth Gambling Problems and High-Risk Behaviors](#) at McGill University.

Research shows that the earlier a person's participation or exposure to gambling is in childhood, the more likely they are to develop a gambling problem later in life. Gambling exposure during childhood is often through some kind of lottery product, such as lottery tickets or scratch offs. Often these items are given to a child by an adult who is unaware of the associated risks.

The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling encourages adults not to give lottery tickets to underage children/teens as holiday gifts – many problem gamblers report that they began gambling during childhood. "Problem gambling is a growing concern among adolescents. We feel it's important to let parents, grandparents and others know that lottery tickets are not a good gift choice for children", says Rose Blozinski, WCPG Executive Director.

The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling has signed on to the 2023 Gift Responsibly Campaign as a participant. During November and December, The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling will work to promote awareness about the risks of underage lottery use by raising awareness about the risks of youth gambling by public service announcements, social media, in-person school presentations, video presentations, etc...

"The potential long-term risks associated with underage gambling exposure cannot be understated," said Keith Whyte, NCPG Executive Director. "I commend each Gift Responsibly Campaign participant for their commitment to raising awareness about the risks of youth gambling. Now, more than ever, we must continue to insist that lottery tickets are never appropriate gifts for children."

The WCPG has been an affiliate of the NCPG since 1994. Rose Blozinski has served on the National Board two different terms. Each term for several years. WCPG staff served on several committees over the years. WCPG has hosted the National Conference in 2012. The WCPG works in unison with the NCPG to promote awareness of gambling disorders and responsible gambling.

About the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling

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, Textline at 1-850-888-HOPE, 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 website, visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/WisconsinCouncilonProblemGambling or follow us on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/wcpgambling>.

About the National Council on Problem Gambling

The National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG) is neutral on legalized gambling. Based in Washington DC, NCPG is the only national nonprofit organization that seeks to minimize the economic and social costs associated with gambling addiction. If you or someone you know may have a gambling problem, contact the National Problem Gambling Helpline, which offers hope and help without stigma or shame. Call or text 1-800-GAMBLER or visit www.1800gamblerchat.org. Help is available 24/7 – it is free and confidential.

About International Center for Youth Gambling Problems and High-Risk Behaviors at McGill University For over 20 years, the International Centre for Youth Gambling Problems and High-Risk Behaviours at McGill University has been at the forefront of leading-edge research aimed at identifying and understanding the critical factors related to youth gambling issues.

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