

The Super Bowl can be very difficult for those who are problem gamblers WCPG urges caution as the Super Bowl approaches

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(Green Bay, WI) – The sports world turns its attention to the Las Vegas, Nevada area this week with Super Bowl LVIII set for Sunday, February 11, 2024 at Allegiant Stadium. The Lombardi Trophy is on the line as San Francisco 49ers and Kanas City Chiefs square off. It is also *THE* biggest wagering day of the year in the U.S.

Rose Blozinski, Executive Director of the <u>Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling</u> (WCPG) says the culmination of the pro football season can be a real challenge for those dealing with an addition to gambling.

"The Super Bowl can be very difficult for those who are problem gamblers," Blozinski says. "Problem gamblers often look at the big game as a last chance to cover the losses from a long football season. Most of them, however, will only lose more. Our Helpline usually sees an increase in calls right after the Super Bowl."

Blozinski adds that the impact of the problem goes beyond the money for most problem gamblers. "When problem gamblers reach out for help, they've typically lost thousands of dollars with significant impacts on families, friends and even their workplace," Blozinski says. "We see it often that family members aren't even aware of the gambling addiction and debt until it's a very bad situation."

WCPG is a statewide organization with a mission of educating and promoting public understanding of problem gambling, while maintaining neutrality on the issue of legalized gambling. WCPG operates a Problem Gambling Helpline that is available 24/7 as a resource for anyone facing a gambling problem.

If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, call the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling Helpline at 1-800-426-2535, Text at 1-850-888-4673 or Live Chat through the WCPG website at www.wi-problemgamblers.org.

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The <u>Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling</u> 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 1-800-426-2535, 1-850-888-4673 Textline, and Chat available on <u>www.wi-problemgamblers.org</u>, 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 <u>Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling</u> website, visit us on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/WisconsinCouncilonProblemGambling</u> or follow us on Twitter at https://twitter.com/wcpgambling