



## Your help is needed

ith your help, the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling, Inc. can reach its goals, which are to:

- Promote public education and awareness of problem gambling.
- Maintain a toll-free statewide Helpline where problem gamblers and their families can call for immediate and continuing assistance in dealing with the addiction.
- Advocate quality assistance for all individuals affected by gambling problems.
- Identify "high risk" individuals and groups of problem gamblers and provide prevention activities and information.
- Provide expert training to professional counselors in the treatment of problem gambling.
- Compile and maintain a database of statistical information concerning problem and pathological gambling in Wisconsin.

Many calls to the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling's 24-Hour Helpline come from family members or friends who have discovered their loved one's gambling problem and question how they might help them.

If gambling is becoming a problem for you or someone you care about, help is available.



We Can Help 24-hours a day

1-800-426-2535

Chat wi-problemgamblers.org Text 850-888-4673

**Providing Hope** For Recovery







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.



## **About the Wisconsin Council** on Problem Gambling, Inc.

he Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling, Inc. was formed in 1993 to create public awareness about problem gambling in Wisconsin and provide services to problem gamblers. The Council is a non profit organization, governed by a volunteer board of directors.

The Council's major funding source is the State of Wisconsin, Department of Health Services. The Council also receives grants, donations and conference sponsorships from some Wisconsin Native American Tribes, as well as individual donations and memberships.

The Council operates a 24-hour Helpline at 1-800-426-2535, a text line at 850-888-4673, and a chat line at wi-problemgamblers.org. The WCPG distributes informational brochures, organizes an annual statewide conference, provides outreach to Wisconsin Schools, makes presentations on problem gambling and conducts training sessions for treatment providers interested in special requirements for working with problem gamblers and their families.



For more information about the WCPG Membership and Tax-Deductible Contributions Benefits and to become a member visit our website at: wi-problemgamblers.org/members/.



## Providing hope for recovery

What is compulsive gambling?

ompulsive gambling, also called gambling disorder, is the uncontrollable urge to keep gambling despite the toll it takes on your life. Gambling means that you're willing to risk something you value in the hope of getting something of even greater value. Gambling can stimulate the brain's reward system much like drugs or alcohol can, leading to addiction. If you have a problem with compulsive gambling, you may continually chase bets that lead to losses, hide your behavior, deplete savings, accumulate debt, or even resort to theft or fraud to support your addiction.

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Why should I care?

n estimated five to seven percent of Wisconsin residents, about 333,000 people, are problem gamblers. Not only does problem gambling shatter the lives of men, women and their families, it affects the workplace and results in economic loss to society. Problem gambling is described as a "hidden illness" since there is no breath odor or stumbling of steps or speech. It is as debilitating as alcohol or drug addiction. Still, there is hope for recovery. Once diagnosed, gambling disorder is a treatable illness.

Medical Education and Research, all rights reserved. The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling (WCPG) is an IRS-designated 501 (c)3 non-profit organization whose mission is to provide resources, public awareness and education on problem gambling and pathological gambling disorders while maintaining strict neutrality on the issue of legalized gambling. The WCPG depends on grants and donations to provide these vital services. Donations to WCPG are tax-deductible.

## Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling, Inc. Membership Application

	(Work)	Email
Name Organization	City / State / ZipTelephone (Home)	Email  For Credit Card payment, go to our website and click on the Ulnvoice me Payment Enclosed (Make checks payable May we have permission to publish your name in our newsle The WCPG is a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation. Contributions are tax deductible.