



Problem Gambling Conference Brings Together Experts in Field

SPOKESPERSON: *Available for comment*

Rose Blozinski, Executive Director, Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling, 1-920-437-8888

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(Green Bay, Wis.) – As part of its ongoing effort to increase awareness of gambling disorders, the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling (WCPG) is hosting the 26th Annual Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling Statewide Conference, “Traveling Into the Future through Awareness, Education, and Prevention”, on March 20th – 21st, 2025 (pre-conference March 19th)! It will be held at Stoney Creek Hotel & Conference Center in Onalaska, WI. For most people, gambling is a fun form of entertainment. For others, however, gambling can be a problem that affects the gambler, his or her family and friends, and even the gambler’s workplace.

“Just to name a few of our presentations this year, we have Jerry Bauerkemper presenting “Disordered Gambling: A Combination of Fantasy & Cognitive Distortion”. This will explain that disordered gambling is not just about wagering and losing. Attendees will explore how the disordered gambling mind works and the desires and needs of the gambler to help determine a treatment plan. Jim Schwartz will present “Psychotherapy and the Addictions, Including Problem Gambling”. This session will present an overall view of the psychotherapy of addictions including problem gamblers and will include several case presentations that highlight various aspects of psychotherapy that can help problem gamblers understand and control their gambling problem. Last, 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. Andrew J Schreier will present, “How We Speak Matters: Undoing Stigmatizing Language”.

The total continuing education units a conference attendee can earn is 22. The conference is designed for anyone concerned about problem gambling in Wisconsin, including criminal justice personnel, human resource professionals, mental health professionals, gaming industry personnel, clergy, problem gamblers, and their families and friends.”

This annual event provides connections to some of the leading experts in the problem gambling field.

Conference speakers will cover a range of topics, including:

- Intersection of Gambling and Suicidal Ideation
- Nothing Changes in Services Without Leadership
- Intimate Partner Domestic Violence and Gambling Disorder
- Managing Workplace Gambling: Effective Strategies for Organizations
- And many more interesting topics...

WCPG is a statewide organization that provides resources, public awareness and education on gambling disorders while maintaining strict neutrality on the issue of legalized gambling. The WCPG operates a Problem Gambling Helpline, and a Text and Chat line that are 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 **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 1-800-426-2535 / 1-850-888-4673 Text line, 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](http://www.wisconsin-council-on-problem-gambling.org) website, visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/WisconsinCouncilonProblemGambling or follow us on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/wcpqgambling>