



Problem Gambling Conference Sparks Call for Prevention and Support

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 27th Annual Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling Statewide Conference, “Shine Your Light, Change the World through Awareness, Education, and Prevention”, on March 19th – 20th, 2026 (pre-conference March 18th)! It will be held at the Milwaukee Marriott West in Waukesha, 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 Linda Graves presenting “Senior Gambling and Self-Determination Theory”. This keynote will look at senior gambling through the lens of self-determination theory including using case studies. The facilitator will discuss the motivations to gamble, including intrinsic and extrinsic motivations, as well as loneliness and loss. Peter Moran will present “When and How Does a Problem Gambler Decide to Change Their Behavior”. The goal of this session will be to help participants understand the dynamics of a problem gambler changing their behavior. With the recent rise in online gambling, we have the “Continuing Risk of the Gaming-Gambling Convergence” presented by Dr. James Schreier. Another important topic “When Walking Away is a Step Forward: Understanding Gambling Self-Exclusion” presented by Andrew J. Schreier will explore gambling self-exclusion programs as a harm reduction strategy designed to empower individuals to take back control over their gambling behaviors.

Attendees can earn a maximum of 22 continuing education units. This conference is designed for anyone impacted by or interested in problem gambling disorders in Wisconsin, including criminal justice and HR professionals, mental health providers, gaming industry staff, clergy, and problem gamblers along with their loved ones.

This annual gathering provides direct access to respected experts in problem gambling. Conference sessions will cover diverse topics such as:

- Adolescent sports gambling
- The continuing risk of the gaming-gambling convergence
- Helping to promote change for people with gambling disorders
- Gambling self-exclusion
- 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>