



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

3/2/2026

Contact:

Rose Blozinski, Executive Director

920-437-8888

Rose@wi-problemgamblers.org

March is Problem Gambling Awareness Month

Green Bay, WI — The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling (WCPG), in partnership with the National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG), recognizes March as **Problem Gambling Awareness Month (PGAM)**. This year's theme, "**Caring Communities, Stronger Futures**," emphasizes the importance of a community-driven approach to problem gambling awareness and support. The annual campaign aims to increase public awareness of problem gambling and the availability of prevention, treatment, and recovery services, as well as encourage healthcare providers to screen for problem gambling and connect individuals to appropriate support.

Problem gambling, defined as gambling behaviors that disrupt or damage personal, family, or professional lives, affects millions of Americans. In the U.S. 2.5 million adults (1%) are estimated to meet the criteria for a severe gambling problem in a given year. Another 5–8 million (2–3%) are considered to have mild or moderate gambling problems. Additionally, in the past year, approximately 20 million American adults reported experiencing at least one indicator of problematic gambling behavior.

"A strong community isn't one without challenges — it's one that responds with empathy, innovation, and action. By standing together, we can effectively address gambling-related harm and shape a better tomorrow." — Rose Blozinski, WCPG Executive Director

A Community-Driven Approach to Awareness and Support

Throughout March, the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling will lead efforts focused on increasing public understanding of problem gambling and ensuring individuals are aware of the available prevention, education, treatment, and recovery services in their community. Activities will include:

- The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling Statewide Conference – "Shine Your Light, Change the World Through Awareness, Education, and Prevention".
- Problem Gambling Screening Day March 10, 2026 (found on the WCPG website).
- Social media campaigns and webinar "Disordered Gamblers: False Gods and Broken Promises" presented by Jerry Bauerkemper, BS, CDGC, Problem Gambling Services Consultant.
- A Packet sent out to over 600 drinking establishments in the state of Wisconsin.

These efforts reflect a simple truth: when community comes together — friends, families, educators, healthcare providers, local partners, and policymakers — silence is replaced with support, and isolation is replaced with connection. To learn more about problem gambling, please visit [NCPGambling.org/FAQs](https://www.ncpgambling.org/faqs)

The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling encourages local media, partners, and residents to join the effort by sharing resources, uplifting stories of those in recovery, and helping connect people to available support.

If you or someone you know is struggling with a gambling problem, the **National Problem Gambling Helpline™** offers free, confidential support 24/7:

Call 1-800-MY-RESET

Text 800GAM

Chat at [www.NCPGambling.org/chat](https://www.ncpgambling.org/chat).

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.

###

*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 Textline, 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](https://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/wcpgambling>