



# WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON PROBLEM GAMBLING

MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS: Potawatomi Hotel & Casino

## Gift Responsibly for the Holidays

With holiday parties and gatherings extending well into January, as well as other functions throughout the year, Gift Responsibly can be utilized all year long.

Founded in the early 2000s, the Gift Responsibly Campaign works to raise public awareness about the risks of youth gambling. Through partnerships with lotteries and other organizations, the campaign educates communities about the risks of buying lottery tickets for children. The Wisconsin Lottery has a long-standing commitment to responsible gaming and has been a partner with the Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling with problem gambling education for more than 25 years.

Research supports that early exposure to or participation in gambling during childhood is highly correlated with the development of a gambling problem later in life. Gambling exposure during childhood is often through a lottery product, such as lottery tickets or scratch offs. Often these items are given to a child by an adult who is unaware of the associated risks. "Youth gambling is a growing risk that too often goes overlooked. The Gift Responsibly Campaign plays a vital role in helping families and communities understand the importance of keeping lottery products out of kids' hands," said Derek Longmeier, President of NCPG's Board of Directors.

Many young people report that their first gambling experience occurs around 9 -11 years of age. Children who have early exposure to gambling experiences, including lottery tickets, are four times more likely to develop a gambling problem. This holiday season, #GiftResponsibly. Lottery tickets aren't for kids.

The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling provides education, awareness, and resources on problem gambling disorders. We offer youth outreach and will provide gambling education at schools throughout Wisconsin (speaker request form can be found on our website).

If you or someone you know is struggling with a gambling problem, you can reach out for confidential help by calling the Wisconsin Gambling Helpline at 1-800-426-2535 or text 1-850-888-4673. Information is also available at [wi-problemgamblers.org](http://wi-problemgamblers.org).

The earlier a child is exposed to gambling, the more likely they are to develop a gambling problem later in life.

**GIFT RESPONSIBLY**  
Lottery Tickets Aren't Child's Play

# 2025 Winter Newsletter

## WCPG's 2026 Webinars

All Webinars are 10am -11:30am CDT

### From Theory to Practice: Best Practices in Gambling Treatment

Date: January 14, 2026

Presenter: Heather Chapman

### You Have to Have Money to Gamble... Don't You? Unpacking the Overlooked Link Between Gambling and Homelessness

Date: February 11, 2026

Presenter: Andrew J Schreier

### Disordered Gamblers: False Gods and Broken Promises

Date: March 11, 2026

Presenter: Jerry Bauerkemper

### Understanding Gambling Disorder & Co-Occurring Mental Health Conditions: A Holistic Approach to Treatment

Date: April 8, 2026

Presenter: Sara Devine

### Gambling and Suicide—The Intersection and Slippery Slope

Date: September 9, 2026

Presenter: Barb Bigalke

### Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MBSR) and Compulsive Gambling

Date: November 11, 2026

Presenter: Michael Goldman

\$15 each or all 6 for \$75



**For more information on any WCPG training and to register online please visit our website**



**(under the events tab): <https://wi-problemgamblers.org/>**

Continuing Education Units for 1.5 hours each webinar have been applied for with the following: Association for Addiction Professionals (NAADAC), Employee Assistance Certification Commission (EACC), International Problem Gambling and Gaming Certification (IPGGC), Wisconsin Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (WAMFT) and the National Association of Social Workers (NASW).

### 2025 Board of Directors

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Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling's  
27th Annual Statewide Conference

*"Shine Your Light, Change the World Through  
Awareness, Education, and Prevention"*

March 19-20, 2026  
Pre-Conference  
March 18th

- ◆ Ethics Training 4 CEUs
- ◆ Clinical Supervision 6 CEUs
- ◆ Earn up to 22 CEUs

**KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**



*Jerry Bauerkemper*



*Andrew Schreier*



*Linda Graves*



*Ken Winters*

*CEU certifications will be applied for: Social Workers, Marriage & Family Therapists, Professional Counselors, Substance Abuse Counselors, and Clinical Supervisors through NAADAC, EACC, WAMFT, NASW, and IPGGC.*

Printable brochure, online registration, and payments can be found on our website: [wi-problemgamblers.org](http://wi-problemgamblers.org).  
For more info, or to receive the conference brochure contact us at 920-437-8888

**TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON PROBLEM GAMBLING STATEWIDE CONFERENCE**

**(Only one person may register per form. Please photocopy for additional registrations. PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)  
 \*\*If there are 3 or more people attending from one organization each will receive \$10 off their registration fees\*\***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 County: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Meals:  Regular  Vegetarian

Pre-Registration Is Required.

**Registration Checklist:**

Please have the following completed for your Conference Registration:

- Completed application form
- Meal selection (**Regular/Vegetarian**)
- Awards Banquet attendance
- Ethics attendance (**check box below if attending**)
- Membership submission if desired
- Payment

EAP Continuing Education

**AWARDS BANQUET: Thursday, March 19, 2026 6:00pm - 9:00pm**

- I will attend  I will not attend  \$30.00 Non-registered Banquet Guest

*(The Full Conference and Thursday Only Rates include the Awards Banquet at no additional cost, but you must register in advance.)*

RATES BEFORE	RATES AFTER	Please check if you plan to attend Ethics: <input type="checkbox"/>
<u>2/23/26:</u>	<u>2/18/26:</u>	
<input type="checkbox"/> \$35.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$40.00	Pre-Conference Ethics - <b>Workshop Only</b> (March 19, 1:00pm-5:00pm) "Ethics and Boundaries in Trauma Informed Care" - Mark Sanders INCLUDED IN FULL CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
<input type="checkbox"/> \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35.00	Pre-Conference (March 18, 8:00am-12:00pm) "Utilizing the Creative Arts in Treatment" - Sara Devine
<input type="checkbox"/> \$50.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$55.00	Pre-Conference (March 18, 9:00am-4:00pm) "Supervision" TBD
<input type="checkbox"/> \$150.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175.00	Full Conference Rate (NOT INCLUDING PRE-CONFERENCE)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$175.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$205.00	Full Conference AND Pre-Conference presentation "Utilizing the Creative Arts in Treatment" - Sara Devine
<input type="checkbox"/> \$195.00	<input type="checkbox"/> 225.00	Full Conference AND Pre-Conference presentation "Supervision" TBD
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100.00	<input type="checkbox"/> \$125.00	Thursday Only OR Friday Only (Please circle choice)

- **ALL RATES INCLUDE BREAKS.**
- **LUNCH INCLUDED WITH THURSDAY AND FRIDAY REGISTRATION.**
- **EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS FEBRUARY 23, 2026**

**Your WCPG Bronze level or higher Membership saves you money:**

Renew your Bronze Membership or join now and save \$35 off Full Conference Registration!

**Membership Fee: \$** \_\_\_\_\_  
 (\$75.00 or more for discount)

**Conference Fee: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Discount: (\$35.00)**

**TOTAL Enclosed: \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check or money order payable to:

**Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling, Inc. (WCPG)  
 1585 Allouez Avenue  
 Green Bay, WI 54311**

**Now accepting online registration and credit card payments!**

Please include your email address when registering. We will email all correspondence and CEU Certificates.

If you register without an email address, you will receive correspondence via mail to the address provided.

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

*As 2025 begins to wind down, I want to thank everyone who has supported the WCPG throughout this year. To all of our financial supporters, we wouldn't be here without you and are forever grateful. To everyone that attended our 26th Annual Conference at the Stoney Creek Hotel in Onalaska in March or one of our live or on-line training courses throughout the year, thank you. To our WCPG Board members who give countless hours to committees and meetings, we are blessed. To our Call Responders who answer the Helpline, thank you for being there for our callers in crisis. Working together, we can continue to provide statewide services to all who are affected by problem gambling disorders. The staff at the WCPG wishes a million thanks to each and every one of you. We look forward to working with you in 2026 as we continue to provide services to those dealing with problem gambling disorders.*

*All of us at the WCPG hope you have a wonderful holiday season and wish you a Happy New Year.*

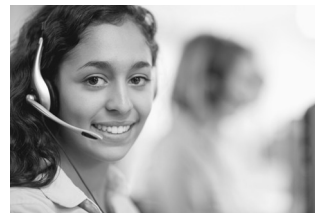
*We look forward to 2026 as we continue to provide services to people who are affected by gambling disorders. Please mark your calendar for March 19-20, 2026, as we host our 27th annual conference.*

*Having been a part of the WCPG for the past 28 plus years, it is exciting to look back and see how far we have come and also look forward to what the future will be as we continue to provide resources, education and awareness on gambling disorders.*

*Wishing you the best in 2026!*

*Rose Blozinski*

Rose Blozinski



### Become a Helpline Call Responder for our Problem Gambling Support Line

We are looking for compassionate, reliable individuals who would like to serve as call responders on our 24-hour Helpline. This is a meaningful opportunity to support individuals and families affected by problem gambling.

Please note: this is not an hourly paid position, but responders do receive a stipend.

If you're interested in making a difference and would like to learn more, **call our office at 1-920-437-8888 to see if this role might be a good fit for you.** We'd be happy to answer questions and provide additional details.



Winter 2025 Newsletter

For help: Call: 1-800-426-2535

Text: 1-850-888-4673



1585 Allouez Ave.  
Green Bay, WI 54311  
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Fax: (920)437-8995

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**Newsletter now available via email....**

Please contact  
The Wisconsin Council  
on Problem Gambling  
1-800-Gamble-5  
or email:  
[wcpg@wi-problemgamblers.org](mailto:wcpg@wi-problemgamblers.org)

View this newsletter on the web at:

[www.wi-problemgamblers.org](http://www.wi-problemgamblers.org)