



# WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON PROBLEM GAMBLING

MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS: Potawatomi Casino Hotel

## The Gambling Addiction Recovery, Investment, and Treatment (GRIT) Act

Show your support for the GRIT Act and go to <https://ncpgambling.org/advocacy/grit-act/> to add your organization/name to a list of supporters.

Information taken from the National Council on Problem Gambling website.

### The Issue:

- ◆ The national annual social cost of problem gambling is \$7 billion.
- ◆ NCPG estimates 7 million American adults suffer from gambling addiction.
- ◆ There are currently no federal funds designated for problem gambling treatment or research, unlike the billions in funding for alcohol, tobacco, and drug addiction.
- ◆ The federal government levies an excise tax of 0.25% on all money wagered on sports in the United States, which is deposited in the general fund.
- ◆ From FY20 to FY21, the revenue from the federal sports gambling excise tax alone has increased from \$38.7 million to \$110.7 million. As of March 2022, the FY22 excise tax revenue already reached \$90.9 million. This number is likely to continue to increase as more states legalize sports gambling.

### What the GRIT Act would do:

- ◆ This legislation would set aside 50% of the federal sports excise tax revenue for gambling addiction treatment and research.
  - 75% will be distributed to the states for gambling addiction prevention and treatment through the existing Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant program.
  - 25% will go to the National Institute of Drug Abuse to fund grants for research into gambling addiction.
- ◆ The legislation would authorize spending for 10 years and require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to submit a report to Congress on the effectiveness of the program within three years of passage.
- ◆ Importantly, this legislation does not increase taxes on Americans; it simply sets aside a funding stream for problem gambling treatment and research that will continue to increase as online sports wagering becomes more prominent.
- ◆ This legislation does not increase government bureaucracy, but rather utilizes existing HHS programs and procedures.

### The Result:

- ◆ The first-ever dedicated federal funding for programs to prevent, treat, and study gambling addiction.
- ◆ Provides vital support to state health agencies and nonprofits left on their own to address gambling problems.
- ◆ Allows investment in best practices and comprehensive research, which is only possible at the national

 2024 Summer Newsletter

~TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES~

Webinars

Sports Gambling: A Risky Game for Teenagers

Date: September 11, 2024 ~ 10:00am - 11:30am

What Happens When Gambling Leads to Criminal Behavior?

October 9, 2024 ~ 10:00am - 11:30am

Cost: \$20 per Webinar - 1.5 CEUs

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FROM GAMBLING TO GAMBLING DISORDER—SESSIONS 3 & 4

If you have completed Sessions 1 & 2 and would like to complete Sessions 3 & 4

Register online at <https://www.wi-problemgamblers.org> under Events

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CEU certifications applied for through NAADAC, EACC, WAMFT, NASW, and IGCCB

Please see our website for more information: [www.wi-problemgamblers.org](http://www.wi-problemgamblers.org)



HAPPY RETIREMENT CHERI

Cheri Braley, our Operation’s Manager, retired on May 31, 2024, from the WCPG after 21 years. Cheri has been an intricate part of the WCPG starting as the Helpline Coordinator and retiring as the Operations Manager. Over the years Cheri has been instrumental in developing and implementing our social media programs, growing the Helpline, working with our Treatment Providers, and a million other things. Cheri gave her heart and soul to everything she did for the WCPG. She has touched countless lives in 21 years.

There are not enough words to tell you what an impact Cheri has made on the WCPG. Little did I know in August of 2003 what a priceless gem we were hiring. From the bottom of my heart and on behalf of the WCPG, we are so thankful for all Cheri has done. Happy retirement. You will be missed.



The WCPG is in the process of planning for the 2025 Conference. Please watch our website for coming information!

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

# Call for Presenters 2025!

The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling, Inc. will be hosting its 26th Annual Statewide Compulsive Gambling Awareness Conference. The Conference will take place in March 2025

## Suggested Presentation Areas Include (but are not limited to):

- Assessment, Treatment and Recovery
- Public Awareness
- Outcome and Social Cost
- Prevention and Impact of Gambling
- Effects on Select Populations
- Topics Concerning Adolescents, Older Adults, and Women
- Intervention
- Ethics
- Support for the Family
- Co-Occurring Disorders

## Who Attends This Conference?

- People involved in research, treatment and prevention of problem gambling
- Criminal Justice Personnel
- Mental Health Professionals
- Employee Assistance Personnel
- Human Resource Staff
- Gaming Industry Personnel
- Educators and Students
- Compulsive Gamblers
- Elected Officials
- Friends and Family Members of Problem Gamblers

Please fill out the attached Presenters Application form on back or go to the WCPG website to fill out an online application: [wi-problemgamblers.org](http://wi-problemgamblers.org)  
If submitting more than one presentation, please copy and complete an application form for each submission.

TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL OR  
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

CONFERENCE COORDINATOR

WISCONSIN COUNCIL ON PROBLEM GAMBLING, INC.  
1585 ALLOUEZ AVE.  
GREEN BAY, WI 54311

PHONE: (920)437-8888  
FAX: (920)437-8995  
EMAIL: [CONFERENCE@WI-PROBLEMGAMBLERS.ORG](mailto:CONFERENCE@WI-PROBLEMGAMBLERS.ORG)

**Deadline to submit  
Proposal is  
August 31, 2024**



**WISCONSIN COUNCIL**  
ON PROBLEM GAMBLING

# Presenter Application

(Incomplete submissions will not be considered.)  
(Information provided will be used in Conference Brochure)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Credentials \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Honorarium Requested \_\_\_\_\_

Presentation Title \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate the level of your presentation: Beginner \_\_\_ Intermediate \_\_\_ Advanced \_\_\_ \*can chose more than one

Are you submitting for a workshop: Y/N Are you submitting for a preconference workshop - 4 or 6 hours: Y/N

Are you submitting for a keynote: Y / N

(Please note that this information will be used for CEU applications & brochure if selected.)

**Please submit a typed paragraph describing your presentation and at least three (3) goals and objectives for your presentation. (Please email {preferred method}, fax, or mail the presentation proposal.)**

Description of Presentation: (Please attach additional pages if needed)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Goals and Objectives:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Please e-mail a one paragraph professional biography to: [conference@wi-problemgamblers.org](mailto:conference@wi-problemgamblers.org)**

**\*\*Please keep a copy of the Call for Presenters application and information for your personal records\*\***

We Can Help: 1-800-426-2535

## Summer Vacation

With summer vacations and more time off, you may find that your gambling may be becoming a problem.

If you're concerned that gambling may become more than a game, try using some guidelines:

- Set a Summer budget and stick to it—Think of the money you lose as the cost of entertainment.
- Consider any money you win as a bonus.
- Set a dollar and time limit and stick to it.
- Leave when you reach your limit.
- Understand that you'll probably lose, and accept the loss as part of the game.
- Don't borrow money to gamble.
- Prioritize other activities—Don't let gambling interfere with or become a substitute for family, friends, or work.
- Don't chase losses. Chances are you'll lose even more trying to recoup your losses.

### Warning Signs:

- Neglecting social activities—preoccupied with gambling and unable to stop. Frequent unexplained absences
- Lying about gambling.
- Financial troubles—borrowing money, unpaid debts.
- Restless and irritable when not gambling.
- Bragging about gambling, exaggerating wins and minimizing losses.



## “Celebrating Recovery, Hope, and Support” 5K Run/Walk



### When:

September 14, 2024  
9:00am – 12:00pm

### Location:

Brown County WI Barkhausen  
Waterfowl Preserve  
2024 Lakeview Dr, Suamico, WI  
54173

Visit our Website Event Page for more  
information

<https://wi-problemgamblers.org/events/>

### 2024 Board of Directors

Pat Jirovetz -  
President

Ed Ramsey-  
Vice President

Mark Wesenberg -  
Secretary

Diana Abelt -  
Treasurer

James Harrison III

Jessie Harvath

LeAnne Holden

Doug LaBelle

James Lewis

Andrew Schreier

Todd Zangl

### 2024 Administrative Staff:

Rose Blozinski  
Executive Director

Alta Valenta  
Operations Manager

**WISCONSIN COUNCIL**  
ON PROBLEM GAMBLING

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

Text: 1-850-888-4673



**WISCONSIN COUNCIL**  
ON PROBLEM GAMBLING

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

Please contact  
The Wisconsin Council  
on Problem Gambling  
1-800-Gamble-5  
or email:

[wcp@wi-problemgamblers.org](mailto:wcp@wi-problemgamblers.org)

View this newsletter on the web at:

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