

ICPG NEWSLETTER



The time is near for our annual regional conference. We have great presenters and workshops again this year. As noted in the story below, we welcome the following organizations as new sponsors this year:

Illinois Council on Problem Gambling
Michigan Association on Problem Gambling
Ohio Council on Problem Gambling
West Virginia Council on Problem Gambling
Great Lakes Addiction Technology Transfer Center

2007 MidCentral Conference on Problem Gambling September 19-21

The **2007 MidCentral Conference on Problem Gambling** will be held at the newly restored French Lick Springs Hotel in Orange County in southern Indiana on September 19, 20 and 21. The theme of this year's conference is: **Partnerships for the Future—Examining the impact of Problem Gambling on Society**. To facilitate travel, the conference will begin at 1 pm on the 19th and end at 12 pm on the 21st. Registration is \$90 and \$60 for members of one of the sponsoring organizations. One day registration is \$45 and \$30 respectively. Reduced room rates are available to conference attendees if rooms are reserved by **August 27, 2007**. Please call 1-(888)-694-4332 for reservations.

Since 2004, the Indiana Council on Problem Gambling and the Kentucky Council on Problem Gambling have co-hosted this annual event, previously known as the Kentuckiana Conference on Problem Gambling. The two Council's combined resources have made it possible to have some of the most well known experts in the problem gambling field as presenters. The conference is supported by the Indiana Division

of Mental Health and Addiction and the Kentucky Division of Mental Health and Substance Abuse. As a result of this strong State funding support, registration costs have been kept very low and attendance has grown each year. This year the KCPG and the ICPG are pleased to add our sister organizations from Illinois, Ohio, Michigan and West Virginia as conference sponsors. This necessitated the name change for the conference which we hope to grow into a major regional conference. We are also very pleased to announce that the Great Lakes Addiction Technology Transfer Center will begin participating with us in this and future conferences. The Center will make available copies of many of their excellent printed materials to conference attendees.

Indiana's gaming venues have become an entertainment destination for citizens from the surrounding states. Unlike Indiana, few of these states have the dedicated resources to address the issue of problem gambling. This conference helps to provide needed training to those in this region seeking to

increase their knowledge of problem gambling or to obtain/maintain their credentials as a problem gambling counselors. Many individuals with a gambling problem seek help for co-occurring problems and/or problems caused by their gambling. It is important for counselors in the mental health and addiction fields to increase their knowledge of problem gambling so they can better recognize the problem gambler and be better equipped to address their clients' needs. Up to thirteen (13) CEUs are available to conference attendees. These CEUs are approved by the NCGCB, ICCADA and NAADAC. This year's conference speakers and their workshop titles:

Andrew Chambers, MD Indiana University

"Gambling and Dual Diagnosis"

"Adolescent Brain Development and Gambling Addiction Vulnerability"

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ICPG Mission Statement

The Indiana Council on Problem Gambling strives to generate awareness, promote education, and be an advocate for quality treatment of problem gamblers in the State of Indiana.

2007 MidCentral Problem Gambling Conference

Jon Grant, MD, University of Minnesota

"Biology and Pharmacology of Gambling Addiction"

"Gambling Addiction and Related Mental Health Issues"

Bo Bernhart, PhD, University of Nevada Las Vegas

"Vice Capades: The Yesterdays, Todays and Tomorrows of Problem Gambling"

"Problem Gambling from the Molecular to the Global - and Back Again"

Robert Ladouceur, PhD, University of Laval, Quebec

"Prevention, Awareness Initiatives, Training and Responsibility within the Gaming Industry"

"Treatment Goals, Increasing Treatment Seekers and Reducing Dropouts: a Harmonious Trilogy"

Randee McGraw, CSADC, NCGC, CAS, CCGE, CEAP, Illinois Institute for Addictions Recovery, Peoria, IL

"Effective Use of Screening Instruments"

"Establishing, Operating In-Patient Gambling Treatment Services"

Roger Swendsen, MS, C.P.P.R., Executive Director, Northstar Problem Gambling Alliance Arlington, MN

"Gambling: Choices and Guidelines"

Panel Discussions

"Faith-Based and Family Issues"

Tom Johnson, Ph.D., Indiana State University

Reverend Janet Jacobs, Gambling Recovery Ministries

Courtney Land, PhD, Louisville

"Success and Challenges of Establishing Gambling Treatment at Local Mental Health Centers"

George Brenner, MS, LCSW, LMFT, Addiction Director, Behavior Care services, Indianapolis, IN

Brent Stachler, MS, NCGCI, LMFT, ICACII, MAC, Gambling Addiction Coordinator, Park Center, Fort Wayne, IN

RonSonLyn Clark, PhD, River Valley Behavioral Health, Owensboro, KY

We have an outstanding group of presenters again this year and hope that you will take advantage of this top quality opportunity and attend this year's expanded regional conference.

For additional information on this event, please contact Jerry Long of the ICPG at: jllong@indianaproblemgambling.org

or

Mike Stone of the KYCPG at: kmstone@mis.net

Save on your conference registration by supporting your State Council through your membership.

FY06 Indiana Gaming Revenue

Indiana Gaming Insight reports that FY06 gaming revenue in Indiana totaled \$4,015,563,321.

Horse Racing (Live and in State Simulcast Handle)	\$182,216,624
Charity Gaming	\$533,027,016
Hoosier Lottery	\$817,750,417
Casino Win	\$2,482,569,264

The State's share of this gaming revenue (25.6%) in FY06 totaled \$1,029,268,330.

Help for Female Problem Gamblers

In a previous issue of this newsletter we noted that there was a web site devoted to helping female gamblers, www.femalegamblers.org. The publisher of this excellent web site, Marilyn Lancelot, has now written a book about her experiences as a compulsive gambler. The title is *Gripped by Gambling*. The book is available through www.amazon.com. The reviews have all been very positive.

One of the things that we suffer from in Indiana is a lack of GA and Gam-Anon meetings. This web site and book can provide support for female gamblers where other resources are lacking.

Marilyn in her own words.

"I am a recovering compulsive gambler. I visited my first casino in 1984 at the age of 53. For seven years, my boyfriend and I made the four hour trek from Yuma Arizona to Laughlin Nevada every weekend. I learned early on how to sign my employers' name to company checks. I considered suicide and planned it so it would like an accident.

Then one day the auditors discovered my embezzling. I watched seven police cars pulled into my driveway to take me away, in handcuffs. I lost my job, home, life savings, retirement and my freedom.

Until the morning of my arrest, my family had no idea of my gambling addiction. I remembered a statement I heard in AA years ago. If I did not take care of my problem, society would. And society had.

I spent ten months in the Arizona State Prison at Yuma."

Please visit this web site and mention it others who need help and support.

Horseshoe Casino Hammond Responsible Gaming Education Week
Rick Mazer, Senior VP & GM

Horseshoe Casino actively participates in the American Gaming Association's (AGA) annual Responsible Gaming Education Week, held the first week of August. This initiative is an effort to unite the gaming industry and mental health care providers, simultaneously devoting attention to the serious issue of disordered gambling and the importance of promoting responsible gaming.

Responsible Gaming Education Week is AGA's ongoing national awareness campaign and represents the industry's long-term commitment to this issue.

For the ninth year in a row, Horseshoe collaborated with AGA to raise awareness to our customers and employees about the importance of responsible gaming.

At Horseshoe, we have a long history of promoting responsible gaming. Responsible Gaming Education Week is a reminder that this issue should always be on the top of our minds when dealing with our customers and employees.

Promoting responsible gaming is part of the heritage and culture at all Harrah's Entertainment properties. It's the foundation of the company's Code of Commitment, which spells out the principles that govern the way we do business. Harrah's pioneered the casino entertainment industry's first responsible gaming efforts over a decade ago when a group of employees formed a task force to study the issue of problem gambling. Harrah's continues to be the casino industry's chief advocate for promoting responsible gaming, and Horseshoe advertises Indiana's problem gambling hotline in all of its marketing materials, as well as throughout the casino.

Responsible Gaming Education Week is important to all of us for a number of reasons. First, as the holder of one of Indiana's eleven gaming licenses, Horseshoe has a

gaming license, Horseshoe has a responsibility to address the issue of disordered gambling. Second, it is a problem that can affect anyone and is one that should concern us all.

During Responsible Gaming Education Week, all Horseshoe employees take part in mandatory training sessions and proudly wear their Responsible Gaming buttons throughout the week. Employees are the front-line players in our industry and the ones who interact daily with our customers. It is through our employees that we can have the most impact in promoting responsible gaming.

Keeping Horseshoe No. 1, both in performance and in our Code of Commitment is our ultimate goal. Our company's long-standing and continuing commitment to responsible gaming is something we take great pride in.

Horseshoe's position on this issue is clear: we want everyone who gambles at our casino to visit for the right reasons . . . to simply have fun.

Get educated. Be responsible.

State Funded PG Training Sessions

These training sessions are provided by the Division of Mental Health and Addiction without cost to Indiana residents. Individuals from other States are welcome and pay only \$25. The two day workshops are located at the Indiana Government Center, 402 W. Washington Street, Indianapolis. Fifteen (15) CEUs are available for each workshop. Registration begins at 7:45 and the sessions begin at 8:30 and end at 5 pm. Please contact Jennifer Kelley at jenkell@indiana.edu for registration information and information about the monthly clinical supervisory conference calls.

FY08 Workshops

January 8 & 9

PHASE 1/2: History and scope of gambling in US; Definitions, Screening and Assessment Tools; Typology; DSM-IV Criteria. **(IGC-South Conference rooms 4 & 5)**

March 4 & 5

PHASE 3/4: The meaning of money; treatment planning; co-occurring disorders; stages of change; harm reduction; self help groups; financial management issues; legal issues and gambling treatment. **(IGC-South Conference rooms 4 & 5)**

April 8 & 9

PHASE 5/6: Biogenetics; Neurochemistry & Psychopharmacology & the Brain of the gamblers; Special Populations (teens, seniors, multi-cultural); Issues for Women. **(IGC-South Conference rooms 4 & 5)**

Dates To be Announced

May

PHASE 7/8: Spirituality & Recovery; Treatment Design & Levels of Care; Relapse Prevention; Workplace & EAP Issues; Reimbursement Strategies; Transference & Counter-Transference Issues; Ethics Standards; Resources; Certification Standards.

June

Review and Exam

Workshop Instructors

Joanna Franklin MS, NCGC II has Bachelors and Masters degrees from John Hopkins University and is one of the pioneers in the PG field.

Deborah G. Haskins, Ph.D. is an Affiliate Professor and Director of Masters Field Education in Psychology at Loyola College in Maryland.

State Funded Problem Gambling Treatment Enrollments Decrease

In the State Fiscal Year that ended on June 30 (FY07), State funded outpatient treatment enrollments (283) for problem gambling were down almost 35% from the previous year. Problem Gambling Help Line intakes increased slightly, about 3% during the same period. The ICPG thinks that this is a cause for concern.

The number of individuals who entered treatment is equal to about 23% of the Help Line intake calls that were from problem gamblers as opposed to their family and friends. Some problem gamblers certainly find their way to treatment without the assistance of the Help Line (800) 994-8448. However, it is clear that problem gamblers are not accessing the treatment that they need.

Previous annual Help Line reports tell us that about 80% of gamblers calling for help do not qualify for State funded treatment because of they have (on paper) income beyond the current 200% of the federal poverty line cutoff for all mental health and addiction services provided by the Indiana Family & Social Services Administration (FSSA). This number is about \$25,000. The reasoning behind this means test is that there are insufficient funding for all those seeking treatment. This is certainly true for all such services other than problem gambling where sufficient dedicated dollars are available.

Compulsive gamblers do not seek help until **all** of their resources have been exhausted. While they may still have a job, their financial situation is dire. This financial means test is a major barrier to their entering treatment. While this requirement can be waived if the gambling debts can be documented, this is a difficult process and probably happens

infrequently. Some treatment programs find ways to treat the problem gambler as they provide treatment for a co-occurring problem or for issues resulting from the gambling problem.

The Feds actually oppose this means test for problem gambling. In their September 2004 White Paper Report titled, **Providing Services to Problem and Pathological Gamblers Through the Single State Authorities**, page 9 of this report states, "Few pathological gamblers will qualify to receive services if they must meet the eligibility criteria established for substance abuse and mental health clients." They could not be more correct on this issue.

Our State is a partner in the various forms of legalized gaming now available. A well paid partner, at more than \$1B each year. Indiana will soon have an additional \$1M for problem gambling as a result of the two new racinos because of our Legislators' foresight.

With these new PG dollars, Indiana will have as many resources as any of the forty-eight States with legalized gaming (\$5.25M) and much more than most States, many of which lack any such funds. The resources exist to provide treatment for every Hoosier who seeks it.

It is past time for the Governor to fix this easily correctible problem. The State has a moral obligation to those harmed by its decision to allow legalized gaming and to share in the revenue from this form of entertainment.

Membership Information

**Support the ICPG and the NCPG
Join both organizations and save.**

Individual Membership of the ICPG (\$50)

Joint Membership of the ICPG & NCPG (\$85)

NCPG Membership is \$75.

Gambling Recovery Ministries

GRM Director Reverend Janet Jacobs will serve as Co-Presenter for the Workshop entitled *Faith-Based and Family Issues*, along with Tom Johnson, Ph.D. (Indiana State University) and Courtney Land, PhD. (Family Counselor, Louisville) at the MidCentral Conference on Problem Gambling.

On October 4, Gambling Recovery Ministries will have an information booth at the U.S. Census Bureau's Annual Health Fair, from 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM, in Jeffersonville, IN. This is the third year that GRM will participate in this very large, and well attended fair. Many people stop by, ask questions, and receive specialized brochures and flyers on problem gambling. It is an excellent way to give out information to a large number of people and to provide *help and hope* about disordered gambling in this unique way!

Visit the GRM at: www.grmunc.org

New Indianapolis GA Web Site

The Indianapolis Gamblers Anonymous organization now has a new web site: www.indyga.org. The site contains up to date information on meeting times/locations and other Indianapolis GA events.

Please share the ***ICPG Newsletter*** with others who you think would be interested in the information that it contains. If you **know** someone that should be added to the electronic **distribution**, please let us know by emailing us at: jllong@indianaproblemgambling.org

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