

ICPG NEWSLETTER



Two very significant happenings have occurred since the last **ICPG Newsletter** in February. The **Indiana Legislature** approved expanded gaming at the two horse racing tracks in central Indiana and included **\$1,000,000** in new money for problem gambling initiatives. Secondly, the **ICPG** and **Indianapolis** were selected to host the **23rd National Council on Problem Gambling Conference in June of 2009**. We delayed this newsletter so that we could make this announcement. Detailed articles on both follow.

Expanded Gaming at Indiana's Two Horse Tracks Includes \$1,000,000 for PG

In the last edition of the **ICPG Newsletter** and in an op-ed letter in newspapers around the State, the **Indiana Council** cited five key actions that are needed if Indiana is to successfully address problem of gambling. Among these was:

That any new legislation expanding gaming include additional dollars for problem gambling.

The **Indiana Legislature** wisely did as we hoped and included a provision in **HR 1835** that requires the operators of **Hoosier Park** in **Anderson** and **Indiana Downs** in **Shelbyville** to each pay the **Division of Mental Health and Addiction** \$500,000 annually in order to have 2,000 slot machines at their horse tracks. It is interesting and important that this legislation established payment of these funds as a function of the gaming organization rather than the State since these dollars are in addition to and not part of the tax dollars and licensing fees paid to the State. The **ICPG** believes that this indicates a recognition by **Indiana Legislators** that funding for problem gambling is now recognized as a key cost of having a gaming company. This is very

important as expansion of gaming continues here and elsewhere because of the need to find additional sources of revenue without encountering the wrath of voters that results from increased taxes. Forty-eight States now have some form of legal gaming. Today new tax revenue generated from some sources, including gaming, is often referred to as user fees rather than taxes. This terminology can be helpful to problem gambling advocates because it further supports the idea that those who gamble have assistance available should they need it. If States are going to operate gaming venues (lotteries) or share in the proceeds from other gaming venues, they have an obligation to provide PG treatment to those citizens who require these services. This is highly important as access to a significant new type of gaming will now be available to Hoosiers in central Indiana.

With **HR 1835**, the **Legislators** did their part in this legislative session, now the **ICPG** hopes that the **Governor** will address the other four needed initiatives that we cited in our last newsletter.

These can all be easily implemented by the Governor's staff at the **Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA)**.

These are:

1. **That a comprehensive plan for addressing problem gambling be developed.**
2. **That all dollars now received for problem gambling initiatives be used for PG.**
3. **That the financial means test for State funded treatment be eliminated as it precludes eighty percent of those seeking help from receiving help.**
4. **That more intensive types of treatment be developed for problem gamblers.**

Indiana was among the first States to embrace gaming in the great move by States to seek this revenue and now ranks second to **Nevada** in tax revenue from gaming. Good and bad decisions have been made. It is now much past time to fix the problems that have been identified and for **Indiana** to become a leader in addressing problem gambling.

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.

ICPG to host the 2009 Annual NCPG Conference

On June 7th, the **Indiana Council** was selected to host the **23rd National Council on Problem Gambling Conference** in **Indianapolis** in late **June of 2009**. The conference site will be the **Downtown Indianapolis Hyatt Regency Hotel**.

This year's **NCPG Conference** was held at **Kansas City Missouri** and had approximately 500 attendees. The United States is not alone in having growing gaming venues. While this conference is billed as a national conference it is really a world conference with participants from many countries. This conference provides an opportunity to learn how other States and countries are addressing the issue of problem gambling. The most prominent names in the problem gambling field are presenters at this conference each year as the latest in problem gambling research is made available.

This year's conference was co-sponsored by the **Midwest Consortium on Problem Gambling and Substance Abuse** which consists of the organizations in **Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and Oklahoma** who host an annual conference. The **Kansas City** event was a joint conference of this group and the **NCPG**. As noted in the title of this year's conference, **Improving Practice and Managing Consequences for Problem Gambling, Substance Abuse and Co-Occurring Disorders**, substance abuse was also a major focus of the conference. Including substance abuse expands the potential audience of the conference. Because of the often co-occurrence of problem gambling with other addictions, it makes perfect sense for these conference to also address substance abuse.

The **Indiana Council** congratulates the organizations and individuals that made this year's conference so successful. They have set the a very high standard for future **NCPG** conferences.

2007 MidCentral States Conference on Problem Gambling

The title of this year's conference is: **Partnerships for the Future - Examining Impacts of Problem Gambling on Society.**

The conference is being held at the **French Lick Springs Resort** in Southern Indiana. It will begin at 1 PM on Wednesday and will end at 12 PM on Friday to allow for travel to and from the conference.

We are pleased to have some of the most well known speakers from around North America this year. These include:

Bo Bernhard, Ph.D. (**Sociology of Gambling & Gambling Treatment Issues**)

Andrew Chambers, M.D. (**Gambling and Dual Diagnosis**)

Jon Grant, M.D. (**Gambling Addiction and Related Mental Health Issues & Biology and Pharmacology of Gambling Addiction**)

Robert Ladourceur, Ph.D. (**Identification and Awareness Initiatives within the Gaming Industry & Treatment Techniques**)

Thirteen CEUs will be available to those attending the conference. Registration is \$90 or \$60 depending on the attendee's membership in one of the hosting organizations.

In 2004, the **Indiana Council** approached our sister organization, the **Kentucky Council** seeking to partner with the **KYCPG** on a regional conference. We felt that it made sense to work together thereby maximizing our resources and expertise. This has been a good partnership. This year we welcome our other nearby sister organizations the:

- **Illinois Council on Problem Gambling**
- **Michigan Association on Problem Gambling**
- **Ohio Council on Problem Gambling**
- **West Virginia Council on Problem Gambling.**

With six **NCPG** affiliates working together, our regional conference will enjoy even more success as we move forward on our collective mission to address problem gambling in our respective States.

This conference is made possible by funding from the States of Indiana and Kentucky as well as other sponsoring organizations.

Indiana Council on Problem Gambling
309 West Washington Street
Suite 234
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Phone: 866.699.4274
Fax: 317.632.1434

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.
(Joint membership saves \$40)

Problem Gambling Tool

The **National Council on Problem Gambling** and the **Association of State Problem Gambling Administrators (APGSA)** have developed a **Problem Gambling Tool Kit**. This project is supported by the **Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT)**.

The **PGKIT** provides basic problem gambling facts, referral and treatment information for medical and mental healthcare professionals to help screen and assess for compulsive gambling as a co-occurring disorder with substance abuse, mood disorders and addictive behaviors. According to **Keith Whyte**, executive director of the **NCPG**, "The rate of co-occurrence of problem gambling or pathological gambling among people with substance abuse disorders has been reported as ranging from 9 to 16 percent. At a minimum, the rate of problem gambling among people with substance use disorders is four to five times that found in the general population."

The **PGKIT** includes:

TIP 42: Substance Abuse Treatment for Persons with Co-Occurring Disorders

Problem Gamblers and Their Finances; A Guide for Treatment Professionals

Personal Financial Strategies for the Loved Ones of Problem Gamblers

The **PGKIT** is available free of charge through **CSAT National Clearinghouse on Alcohol and Drug Information**. To obtain the kit, please contact **CSAT** by calling (800) 729-6686 or via the web site:

www.ncadi.samhsa.gov.

www.indianaproblemgambling.org

June Training Events

The **Division of Mental Health and Addiction** has added two additional problem gambling training events this month.

June 27

Gambling Treatment Design and Implementation:

- What are the key elements of gambling treatment?
- What are the best strategies for delivery of treatment services to a variety of treatment populations?
- How to measure treatment effectiveness and assure clients, counselors and administrators of CQI.

Practical guides to treatment implementation will be discussed across the ASAM continuum of care.

June 28

Research updates:

- The latest discoveries and the implications to treatment professionals.
- Industry response to demand for education and interventions.
- Self-regulation taken to the legal level.
- Moving through the early stages of change-resources for the pre-contemplative.

The workshop presenter will be **Joanna Franklin MS, NCGC II**. Each day will count as 7.5 hours of Continuing Education Units (CEU). The training events will be held in the Indiana Government Center South located at **402 West Washington Street** in downtown **Indianapolis**.

For more information, please contact:

Jennifer Kelley at 812-855-7831 or at jenkell@indiana.edu.

FY08 State PG Training

One of the best State problem gambling initiatives has been the use of State PG funds to provide training opportunities for those seeking to become problem gambling counselors via the **National Gambling Counselor Certification Board (NCGC)**. This **free training** will continue in State Fiscal Year 2008. Phase 1 & 2 training will be in September and a two day review and exam session will be held in November for those seeking the **NCGC** credential. The complete eight phase/eight day 60 hour training will begin in January for those seeking to further their knowledge of PG or begin the training necessary to become a credentialed **NCGC** counselor. A review and exam will also be held following the completion of the 60hours of training. All of this training is open to anyone wishing to expand their knowledge of problem gambling, attendees need not be seeking the **NCGC** credential.

Again this year, all training will held in downtown Indianapolis. The monthly clinical supervisory conference calls will also continue to be available as this is a requirement for those seeking the **NCGC** credential. **Joanna Franklin MS, NCGC II** and **Deborah Haskins, Ph.D** will again be providing these services.

Phase 1 & 2 September 12 & 13
Review & Exam November 7 & 8

Phase 1 & 2 January 8 & 9
Phase 3 & 4 March 4 & 5
Phase 5 & 6 April 8 & 9
Phase 7 & 8 TBA
Review & Exam TBA

For more information, please contact:

Jennifer Kelley at 812-855-7831 or at jenkell@indiana.edu.

The French Lick Resort Casino Responsible Gaming Program

Cara Bailey, FLRC

French Lick Resort Casino proudly opened its doors in November 2006 inviting guests to return to America's greatest health and pleasure resort. **French Lick** and **West-Baden** have a rich history, going back to 1845, where well-to-do guests rejuvenated, celebrated, and participated in leisure wagering. After 50 years, gaming has returned to the area.

The return of gaming brings with it an added sense of responsibility," said **Dyan Welsh**, PR Manager and **Indiana Council on Problem Gambling** board member. "We take the issue of responsible gaming very seriously and work in partnership with area organizations to help combat any potential problems."

French Lick Resort Casino initiated a **Responsible Gaming Program** before opening to the public to fulfill our commitment to educate and prepare each employee to recognize and assist guests who may have gambling problems. Our training programs incorporate methods and techniques to help employees recognize compulsive or underage gamblers and take appropriate steps to remedy responsible gaming issues. Responsible gaming training is required of all new hires, quarterly for all casino employees, and at other designated times throughout the year. Training is highly interactive, fun and annually required for all employees. Training handouts are distributed at each session. Staff members are periodically reminded of responsible gaming issues by e-mail and through our staff newsletter. While we believe our staff is well-trained, as a responsible community citizen, we recognize that training is an on-going obligation.

Our **Responsible Gaming Committee**, composed of key personnel, monitors compliance with the State's "**Voluntary Exclusion Program**" as well as other responsible gaming training, and effectiveness. The committee meets regularly to act on exclusions and requests for reinstatements. Since opening in November, **FLRC** has installed additional software modules to help step-up **VEP** compliance and educate staff on the importance of responsible gaming.

The 1600 employees of **French Lick Resort Casino and West Baden Springs Hotel** look forward to celebrating the **American Gaming Association's "Responsible Gaming Education Awareness Week"**.

FLRC provides an array of brochures to patrons, including **RG** brochures created in-house, brochures created by the **ICPG**, and **VEP** brochures from the **Indiana Gaming Commission**. The **Help Line Number** is printed on all marketing and advertising materials. Our website includes responsible gaming information as well as contact information for the **Indiana Council on Problem Gambling**. As a company we are eager to assist those who request assistance and can be provide valuable support to anyone who suffers from a gambling problem.

We work in partnership with the **Indiana Council on Problem Gambling** to help extend their efforts. We contribute through board representation and financial support. Our public relations manager serves on the board and enlisted the help of our graphic designers to develop the **2007 MidCentral Conference on Problem Gambling** marketing materials. We also are

happy to announce that the this conference will be held at our resort.

While the **French Lick Resort Casino** enthusiastically celebrates our rich past, we firmly believe that promoting healthy gambling behavior will ensure our future.

Gambling Recovery Ministries

Coming Events

Janet Jacobs of the **GRM** will be participating in the **August 1-2 "Many Voices, One Vision" Conference on Mental Health and Addiction at the Indiana Convention Center**.

- *Problem Gambling 101 X 6 = One 4 ALL!*
- *A Family Album: At home with the Compulsive Gambler, including "Snapshots" of Lessons Learned for Every Day at Home, Work, and Play.*

There will also be additional workshops on problem gambling at this event.

Janet Jacobs will also be on a panel titled, **Faith Based and Family Issues at the September 19-21 MidCentral Conference on Problem Gambling at the French Lick Resort on September 20.**

Janet can be reached at: jjacobs@grmumc.org

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