



NEWS BREAK

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OUR MISSION

The Council is a nonprofit organization dedicated to assisting problem gamblers and their families and to promote awareness, education, research, prevention and treatment for problem gambling. The Council currently provides a Problem Gambling Helpline, literature distribution, speakers bureau, clinical training, employee awareness training, and a casino full certification program.

WHO WE ARE

Bruce Roberts, Executive Director
Tonya Farrugello, Program Manager
Jennifer Bouillon, Administrative Assistant

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OFFICERS

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Tom Marriscolo, President
Michael Barnard, Exec. Vice President
Marc Lefkowitz, Vice President
Wesley Goldberg, Treasurer
Linda Franks, Assist. Treasurer
Charlie Hoar, Secretary
Lanny Russikoff, Assist. Secretary

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California State Lottery
Tom Marriscolo
Sunnyo Pak*
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Lanny Russikoff
Viejas Enterprises
Robert Weinstein

Advisory Board

Roger Bensinger
Tim Fong, M.D.
Al Gertler
Paul Good, Ph.D.
Melanie Morgan-Swanson
I. Nelson Rose

*Recently elected members

Check Out Our Website:



www.calproblemgambling.org

2009 National Problem Gambling Awareness Week: Real Addiction, Real Recovery

The California Council on Problem Gambling wishes to announce the Seventh Annual National Problem Gambling Awareness Week (NPGAW), March 1 - 7, 2009.



NPGAW is a national campaign to increase public and professional awareness of problem gambling issues and availability of services to assist those affected by problem gambling. In California, this campaign is part of a collaborative effort sponsored by the California Council on Problem Gambling and the Office of Problem Gambling. (Attached at the end of the newsletter is a free NPGAW 2009 flyer that you can print out.) This public and private sector endeavor is working to achieve an environment in which persons experiencing the effects of problem gambling, and those at risk of developing these problems, are able to access appropriate services and resources to enable a return to a healthy lifestyle. In addition, these activities support the recognition of problem gambling as a public health issue, a disorder for which affected individuals deserve effective treatment.

The most important and critical resource for Californians affected by problem gambling is our helpline, 1-800-GAMBLER. It is staffed by trained professionals and has been a lifeline for gamblers, their family, and friends since 1998. Since its inception, the helpline has supported thousands of California families troubled by the burden of abnormal gambling. Counselors are equipped to offer callers crisis management and direct them to whatever resources they may need – from Gamblers Anonymous meeting locations in their area to suicide counseling.

For additional information or free educational materials on problem gambling awareness week, please contact the National Council on Problem Gambling at (202) 547-9204 or visit online at www.npgaw.org.



Clinical Training Update

Gambling Counselor Certification project has increased the number of nationally and state certified problem gambling counselors in the San Diego and Coachella Valley areas and has provided problem gamblers and/or their family members low cost, professional treatment.

San Diego County:

The San Diego Gambling Counselor Intern Pilot Project, funded by San Diego County, Barona Band of Mission Indians and the Sycuan Band of Kumeyaay Nation, started late in 2007. The California Council on Problem Gambling (CCPG) has been providing supervised internship opportunities and advanced training to substance abuse counselors and mental health clinicians who have completed the CCPG Counselor Training and Certification Project.

As of December 31st, the interns have completed one thousand one hundred and fifty (1,150) supervised hours, five hundred sixty-one (561) of which were accomplished in a face-to-face setting. Eighty-five (85) San Diego County residents have presented for treatment and have completed an average of 6.6 sessions.

We are pleased to report that six (6) interns are now California Certified Gambling Counselors (CCGC) and two (2) of the CCGCs have received their National Certified Gambling Counselor (NCGC) certification. The remaining four (4) should be receiving notice of completion from the National Certification Board shortly. Three (3) additional interns have completed fifty percent (50%) or more of the required supervised hours and we believe that they will be eligible for certification within the next few months.

Coachella Valley:

The Desert Samaritan Senior Treatment and Counselor Certification Program, funded by Desert Samaritans for the Elderly, started in February 2008. CCPG provided gambling training and supervised internship opportunities to substance abuse counselors and mental health clinicians interested in gambling specific training to help their communities.

As of December 31st, the interns have completed six hundred and ninety-eight (698) supervised hours, three hundred eighteen (318) of which were accomplished in a face-to-face setting. One hundred fourteen (114) Coachella County residents have presented for treatment and have completed an average of 2.7 sessions.

We are pleased to report that three (3) interns are California Certified Gambling Counselors and should be receiving notice of completion of their National Certification from the National Certification Board shortly. Three (3) additional interns have completed fifty percent (50%) or more of the required supervised hours and we believe that they will be eligible for certification within the next few months.

Although some interns may not receive certification, everyone received thirty (30) hours of classroom training, which should enable them to be a proactive voice for gambling treatment in the community.

2008 Annual CCPG Membership Meeting Recap... New Board Members

California Council on Problem Gambling (CCPG) has gone through quite a change this past year, welcoming five new board members, listed on the front page. "I am really excited about the strength of the new Board," expresses Bruce Roberts, CCPG Executive Director. "I think we have achieved a great balance and added strength by finding new members who match our current needs."



New board members include individuals from health and human services, psychologists, gambling counselors and therapists, as well as those with tribal casino connections. All of these areas are vital to governing our organization and especially in moving CCPG into the future. As we continue to grow and function in many different areas, it is important to have a diverse Board that is flexible and willing to make changes precipitated by growth.

CCPG strives to assist problem gamblers and their families by promoting public awareness, education, research, prevention, and treatment for problem gamblers. As you might know, it is becoming more and more difficult every year to fund these initiatives. As with most non-profit organizations, raising operating funds is a major concern. "I like that the Board is willing to help find new contributors in addition to volunteering their time on committees," stated Roberts.

Focused on raising money, CCPG and its new Board has not lost sight of other important issues. One of the main goals for this year is to increase public awareness with a particular emphasis on the California problem gambling helpline number (800-GAMBLER). CCPG is pleased to partner with the California Office of Problem Gambling in a coordinated effort anchored by an extensive media campaign. Billboards, posters, and radio advertisements throughout California now provide increased awareness of gambling addiction and a phone number where people can find helpful resources. For additional information on problem gambling, please go to www.calproblemgambling.org.

News & Events

February 2009:

- 19th - CCPG was an exhibitor at the Senior Health & Safety Fair in Moreno Valley, California, distributing information to seniors about the possible negative affects of gambling.

January 2009:

- 29th - CCPG's Executive Director presented to Senior Protective Services in La Mesa, California, which included many individuals who worked in San Diego law enforcement and health services.

December 2008:

- 31st - New and improved CCPG website is completed; check it out at www.calproblemgambling.org!
- 11th - Chumash Casino began to train staff for the responsible gaming certification program.
- 6th - Annual Membership and Board of Directors Meeting at Viejas Casino in San Diego. New officers and board members were elected.

October 2008:

- 15th - San Diego interns contract was extended to December 31, 2008, which helps us continue low cost gambling treatment for San Diego County residents.
- 7th - Received notice from the Office of Problem Gambling that the executive order from Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger has been reinstated and payment of helpline funding contract resumes October 7, 2008.

September 2008:

- 26th - San Manuel Indian Bingo & Casino was designated a "Certified Responsible Gaming Establishment" for the second consecutive year.

August 2008:

- 20th - CCPG hired Jennifer Bouillon, our new Administrative Assistant.
- 14th - Received a summary of the 2008 National Conference on Problem Gambling evaluations submitted by participants.

July 2008:

- 31st - Received notice from the Office of Problem Gambling that executive order from the governor will stop payment on the helpline funding contract until further notice.

June 2008:

- 4th - Viejas Casino earned the designation "Certified Responsible Gaming Establishment" for the second consecutive year.

CCPG 2007-2008 SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT

Sustaining Members

San Manuel Band of
Mission Indians



Benefactors

California State Lottery
Santa Anita Park

Corporate Sponsors

Agua Caliente Resort Spa Casino
Chumash Casino
Harrah's Rincon Casino
Hawaiian Gardens Casino
Hollywood Park Casino
Hustler Casino
La Posta Casino
Morongo Casino
Pechanga Resort & Casino
San Manuel Indian Bingo & Casino
Spa Resort Casino
Table Mountain Casino
Viejas Casino

2008 National Conference on Problem Gambling Sponsors

As you all know, this was the largest conference to date. More than 500 people attended the National Conference on Problem Gambling in Long Beach, CA.

On behalf of both the California and National Council on Problem Gambling, we express our appreciation to all the generous sponsors. Needless to say, it would not have been nearly as successful without their support.

We trust the conference was a positive experience for all of you and hope that you will continue to support our work on the state and national level alike. Again, we really appreciate everyone's support of the conference and of responsible gaming. When we work together, everyone truly benefits!



Thank You to the 2008 Conference Sponsors:

- Southern California Casino Association
- Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
- Association of Gaming Equipment Manufacturers
- California Office of Problem Gambling
- California State Lottery
- International Game Technology
- Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians
- San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
- Sunland Park Racetrack & Casino
- County of San Diego, Department of Health & Human Services
- California Department of Justice, Division of Gambling Control
- Harrah's Entertainment
- Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians
- Harrah's Rincon
- Oak Tree Racing Association Charitable Foundation
- San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians

The date and the place has been confirmed for the 23rd National Conference on Problem Gambling!

Indianapolis, Indiana from June 25 - 27, 2009

Visit www.ncpgambling.org/conference for more information.

BECOME A MEMBER

The Council is a 501(c)(3) organization and is funded by voluntary contributions. By becoming a member you and/or your organization support our programs that directly provide help to the problem gamblers and their families here in California. The Council currently provides a Problem Gambling Helpline, literature distribution, speakers bureau, clinical training and employee awareness training. All donations are tax deductible (EIN 95-4106359). Join now and help make a difference within your community!

Membership Opportunities

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 | 1 Year Student Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,500 | Bronze Corporate Membership (1 Year) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 | 1 Year Individual Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000 | Silver Corporate Membership (1 Year) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 | 3 Year Individual Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> \$7,500 | Gold Corporate Membership (1 Year) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$150 | 1 Year Family Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> \$10,000+ | Platinum Corporate Membership (1 Year) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$350 | 3 Year Family Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> \$ | Miscellaneous Donation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 | 1 Year Corporate Membership | | |

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Fax _____ E-Mail Address _____

Please send check or money order to: CCPG at 800 S. Harbor Blvd, Suite 255, Anaheim, CA 92805



NATIONAL PROBLEM GAMBLING AWARENESS WEEK

March 1-7, 2009

**HAVE YOU...
HAVE YOU...** thought a **BIG WIN** would solve
all your problems?

FOR HELP CALL 1-800-GAMBLER



BUREAU OF
GAMBLING CONTROL
California Attorney
General's Office



California Horse
Racing Board



CALIFORNIA
GAMBLING
CONTROL
COMMISSION



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
Mental Health



California Council
on Problem Gambling



OFFICE OF
PROBLEM GAMBLING
California Department of
Alcohol & Drug Programs



calottery