

SERVICES FOR SCHOOL SYSTEMS SYSTEM-WIDE APPROACH

CONSULTATION WITH SUPERINTENDENT, ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL AND/OR BUILDING ADMINISTRATORS. DISCUSSION INCLUDES:

- Overview of problem and discussion of options.
- Gather information on gambling behaviors through a gambling survey or inclusion of gambling questions in surveys of student risk behavior.
- Review or create school policy on pools, raffles, gambling-related fundraising or recreational activities at school and school-sponsored activities e.g. Las Vegas Nights, bingo, raffles, etc.
- Review or create gambling policy for staff and students which addresses gambling on school grounds and at school-sponsored activities. Inclusion in staff and student handbooks.
- Design professional development program for teachers, administrators and support staff.

CURRICULUM APPROACH

- Consultation with curriculum advisory group to include gambling information in the curriculum with the goal of creating awareness of high-risk behaviors and limiting experimentation with gambling.
- Provide staff to present initial lessons, and/or train appropriate staff and provide follow-up consultation once units are in place.

BUILDING APPROACH

- Meet with Student Assistance Teams and/or other mental health personnel and train to identify, assess and refer students with a gambling problem.
- Educate parents about gambling as a potential problem through a PTO/PTA presentation.

ACTIVITIES TO INCREASE STUDENT AWARENESS OF GAMBLING AS A POTENTIAL PROBLEM INCLUDE:

- Utilize players from school-based drama group to learn about gambling in an entertainment form.
- Include literature/resource person at a student health fair.
- Conduct a poster contest to create a positive message about gambling and problem gambling prevention.
- Students create a video public service announcement.
- Student reporter interviews expert in problem gambling and/or recovering gambler for school newspaper.

OTHER SERVICES OFFERED BY CCPG:

- Problem Gambling Helpline: state-wide, toll-free, Helpline available 24 hours per day for problem gamblers and their families. Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island - 800-346-6238

- Public Awareness and Prevention Education: information provided to all media outlets: lectures and seminars available for a variety of community groups.
- Information Clearinghouse: education and research materials for family members, at-risk groups and professionals.
- Professional Training: advanced training for human service providers on prevention, intervention, and treatment of compulsive gambling.
- Legislative and Public Policy Advocacy: coordination and liaison with state officials, professional associations, and educational institutions to develop policies.
- Research: research studies conducted on critical issues and with high-risk populations, e.g., adolescents, senior citizens, women, and substance abusers.
- Corporate Services: educational and programmatic services for the public and private gaming industry and for a variety of for-profit and not-for-profit corporations.

For further information on the above services or school system related programs, call 1-888-789-7777.

**SERVICES FOR SCHOOL SYSTEMS
OFFERED BY
THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL ON PROBLEM GAMBLING**

Do you know...

- Among high school students, the percent who have ever gambled (87%) exceeds the percent who have ever used alcohol or drugs (67%)?
- Students who gamble excessively are more likely to abuse substances and vice versa?
- The rate of problem gambling among high school students (11.3%) significantly exceeds the rate for adults (5.4%)?

Opportunities for school-based services to reduce the rate of problem gambling among teenagers and youth provided by the Connecticut Council on Problem Gambling.