

Session 5

Title: Gambling Counseling Practice and Interventions

Date: 12/3/2024

9 am-12 pm

Presenter: Katie Kirch, LCSW, ICGC-II, BACC

Description:

Not All Bets Are the Same: A Targeted Intervention Guide for Specific Types of Bettors. This training is designed to help both clinical and non-clinical direct care staff to learn specific, effective, interventions for different types of Bettors to help reduce or eliminate gambling episodes throughout their treatment. Participants will learn how to help clients create crucial barriers to gambling early on in treatment based on the client's game of choice. Discussion will focus on different types of Bettors including Casino, lottery, Online, Sports, and OTB. Additional discussion will include how to help clients deal with financial burdens and support for family members.

Learning Objectives:

1. Identify 2 interventions to use with casino gamblers (state specific).
2. Learn 2 different types of boundaries to implement with Persons Affected.
3. Learn 2 financial interventions to implement at the onset of a treatment episode.

References:

Reid R., Fong, T. (2013). Helping Partners in a relationship with a Problem Gambler. UCLA Gambling Studies Program.

Etherington, M. (2019). Gamban, PowerPoint, Connecticut Council on Problem Gambling annual Conference.

Bechtold, J., Wilson A. (2021). The Gambling Disorder Treatment Handbook. A Guide for Mental Health Professionals.

Presenter Bio:

Katie Kirch, LCSW, ICGC-II, BACC Katie Kirch is a 2011 Graduate of the UCONN School of Social Work and received her LCSW in 2013 where she worked as a therapist for the Bettor Choice gambling treatment program at The Connection Inc., in Middletown, CT. From there, she has gone on to become the Program Manager for The Bettor Choice Program at Wheeler Clinic in Hartford, CT. As an Internationally Certified Gambling Counselor, she has dedicated her career to helping those affected by Gambling Disorders in the state of CT. Katie has continued to develop her professional skills by becoming an EMDR therapist and an Acupuncture Detox Specialist and has taught Social Work courses as an Adjunct Professor at the UCONN School of Social Work in Hartford, CT. Katie has also been able to share her knowledge and experiences on a national level where she presented at the National Conference on Problem Gambling at both the Orlando, Florida Conference in 2014 and in Baltimore, Maryland in 2015