

Your Involvement MAKES A DIFFERENCE

The activities of the Task Forces are best accomplished when a cross section of the community is involved.

The protective and risk factors for Problem Gambling touch every sector and corner of our communities. The issues and opportunities that arise from gaming, legal and otherwise, need broad and diverse perspectives and involvement to help keep our communities strong, safe, and healthy.

Ensure your organization is represented alongside other community stakeholders in answering the priorities of these coalitions and task force groups.

- Parents & Parent Organizations
- Youth
- Educators
- Law Enforcement & Public Safety
- Health & Wellness including Behavioral Health & Mental Health Providers
- Faith Community
- Business & Gaming Industry officials
- Media
- Youth Serving Organizations
- Civic & Volunteer Organizations
- Local Government
- Other

Substance abuse counselors, mental health therapists, primary care physicians, and social service workers are increasingly confronted with consumers who are in need of services that address problem gambling issues. And their expertise and insights are valuable to the groups seeing to strengthen the protective factors in our communities.

Prevalence of Co-Occurring Disorders Underscore Need FOR DIVERSE STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

A gambling disorder frequently co-occurs with substance abuse and other behavioral health problems. According to the National Epidemiologic Survey on Alcohol and Related Conditions, of people diagnosed with pathological gambling, 73.2% had an alcohol use disorder, 38.1% had a drug use disorder, 60.4% had nicotine dependence, 49.6% had a mood disorder, 41.3% had an anxiety disorder, and 60.8% had a personality disorder. Other studies suggest that between 10% and 15% of people with an SUD may also have a gambling problem.^{18,19,20} People who have both an SUD and pathological gambling have high rates of attention deficit disorder and antisocial personality disorder.¹⁴ 15-20% attempt suicide.

Source: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Advisory "Gambling Problems: An Introduction For Behavioral Health Services Providers"

Become part of your community's response.
For links to all of the above mentioned
statewide and community organizations visit

800-522-4700
KSgamblingHelp.com

Cunningham-Williams, R., Cottler, L., Compton, W., Spitznagel, E., & Ben-Abdallah, A. (2000). Problem gambling and comorbid psychiatric and substance use disorders among drug users recruited from drug treatment and community settings. *Journal of Gambling Studies*, 16(4), 347-376.

19 Langenbucher, J., Bavly, L., Labouvie, E., Sanjuan, P., & Martin, C. (2001). Clinical features of pathological gambling in an addictions treatment cohort. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*, 15(1), 77-79.

20 Toneatto, T., & Brennan, J. (2002). Pathological gambling in treatment-seeking substance abusers. *Addictive Behaviors*, 27(3), 465-469.

Petry, N. M., Stinson, F. S., & Grant, B. F. (2005). Comorbidity of DSM-IV pathological gambling and other psychiatric disorders: Results from the National Epidemiologic Survey on Alcohol and Related Conditions. *Journal of Clinical Psychiatry*, 66(5), 564-574.

STRONG SAFE HEALTHY KANSAS COMMUNITIES GUIDE TO RESPONSIBLE GAMBLING

Your involvement makes a difference.



Getting Help is your **BEST BET**

800-522-4700
KSgamblingHelp.com

1987 marked the beginning of state-owned and licensed gaming in Kansas with the launch of the Kansas Lottery. Subsequently in the decade of the '90s, four tribal casinos began operating in the state. And in 2007, the Kansas Legislature passed the Kansas Expanded Lottery Act that authorized one casino in each of four designated gaming zones and created a Problem Gambling & Addictions Grant Fund.

(Kansas law also permits non-profit religious, educational, charitable, and fraternal and veterans organizations to conduct bingo games.)

In 2011-12 the Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services (KDADS) conducted the first statewide study of adult gambling behaviors and attitudes since the opening of the casinos. The survey found that half of adult Kansans gambled in the past year including 36% who played casino machine games such as slot machines suggesting the rate of casino visitation among survey respondents is at least 30% higher than the national average. Similar to most U.S. states, almost half of respondents (47%) played lottery games in the past year.

At Risk Population For PROBLEM GAMBLING

The statewide survey included a set of diagnostic questions National Opinion Diagnostic Survey "Clip" or NODS CLiP, referring to behaviors that are 88% predictive of developing a gambling problem. ⁽¹⁾

In their response to NODS Clip questions...

- 9% of gamblers statewide indicated moderate risk for developing a gambling problem.
- .9% of gamblers statewide indicated high risk for a gambling problem.
- Additionally...
9% of adult Kansas gamblers thought they might want to cut back on time or money spent on betting or wagering.

- An estimated 75,553 indicate some level of concern about their gambling.
- More than 1 in 7 adult Kansans (15% or 323, 799 adults) have been negatively affected by the gambling behaviors of family members, friends, or others they know.
- 1 in 5 (20%) of African American survey respondents reported being personally affected by the gambling behaviors of a family member, a rate 60% greater than among Caucasian survey respondents.

Given the prevalence of gambling and the size of the "at risk" and "affected" populations, it is important that Kansans are mindful of their personal gambling risk profile, aware that treatment is available and effective, and how to access those services. Across the board there is work to be done.

- 28% of Kansans are aware of the Kansas Problem Gambling Helpline.
- 29% said they knew of some treatment options in their community.
- Fewer than 1 in 5 believe treatment is affordable.
- There is a strong correlation and prevalence of co-occurring disorders between problem gambling, substance abuse disorders, trouble with relationships, other psychological illnesses, and suicidal thoughts or attempts.

Multiple organizations coordinate an array of initiatives focused on the promotion of responsible gambling and preventing or mitigating the harmful effects associated with problem gambling.

The Kansas Responsible Gambling Alliance, formed in 2008, is a collaborative effort to coordinate and maximize resources to address problem gambling in Kansas. Its members include officials of the Kansas Racing and Gaming Commission, Kansas Department of Corrections, Department for Aging and Disability Services that administers the Problem Gambling and Other Addictions Grant Fund, Kansas Coalition on Problem Gambling, representatives of the

local gaming communities, and an operator or supplier of gaming products.

In the communities, Problem Gambling task forces advocate, educate, and coordinate assistance for those that may have a gambling problem or are affected by someone with a gambling problem.

Southwest Kansas Problem Gambling Task Force is an organization of mental health professionals, treatment and prevention providers, casino representatives, and concerned citizens, who are dedicated to solving the social issues of problem gambling.

South Central Problem Gambling Task Force coordinates advocacy, education, prevention, hope, and treatment options for problem gambling in the community.

Northeast Problem Gambling Task Force serves to raise awareness and provide information to individuals, families, and communities to reduce the harmful effects of gambling.

Comprised largely of community volunteers, a Strategic Prevention Framework guides their composition and work. Like other community-based Prevention stakeholder groups, it is important that the Regional Task Forces are attentive to the sustainability of their efforts, the cultural competence of their collective membership, and they have the capacity for carrying out their roles for assessment, planning, implementation, and evaluation.

Become part of your community's response. For links to all of the above mentioned statewide and community organizations visit

www.KSgamblingHelp.com