



WESTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON PROBLEM GAMBLING AND GAMING HEALTH AWARENESS

FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

MAY 5-8, 2025
SEATTLE, WA

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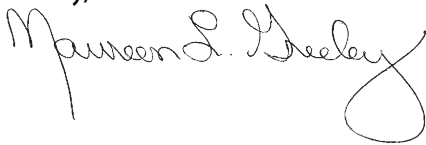
WELCOME TO ***FOCUS ON THE FUTURE*** 2025!

When ***Focus on the Future*** launched in 2007, we hoped it would provide opportunities for everyone working in the field of addictions treatment and prevention to learn more about problem gambling, network with colleagues, and share successes and challenges. It was a start. Today, we understand better the importance of and need for services along a full Continuum of Care. When we offer services from Prevention, Treatment and Clinical Supervision to Recovery Support Services – working together as community organizations, behavioral health, and governmental agencies – we can help people make healthier choices.

This week, you'll have opportunities to attend sessions with leaders in the field on a broad spectrum of topics from ***ASAM Criteria: What's New in the 4th Edition?*** to ***Cultural Humility for Support and a Stronger Therapeutic Alliance***. From ***A Deeper Dive into Stock Market and Financial Tech Trading – Is it Gambling?*** to ***The Evolution of Motivational Interviewing***. From ***Family – Supports, Services, Safety, and Self-Care in Gambling Treatment*** to ***Gambling Incentives and Loneliness in Older Adults***, and so much more. Still with the rapidly evolving landscape of Gambling and Gaming, there is much yet to talk about and much to do – together.

You have made it possible to work as partners and colleagues – as a special community --- to help many communities. Thank you all for the great work you do to make a difference in the lives of so many and for sharing your passion and knowledge at ***Focus on the Future*** 2025.

Warmly,



Maureen Greeley
Executive Director





ABOUT THE EVERGREEN COUNCIL ON PROBLEM GAMBLING



The Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling (ECPG) is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing awareness of public health issues around problem gambling and gaming in diverse cultures, expanding the availability and integration of services, and supporting advocacy, research, and programs for education, prevention, treatment, recovery, and responsible gambling and gaming. ECPG is committed to providing services and programs for individuals, families, employers, students, treatment professionals, gaming industry employees, and the greater community. We accomplish this through the daily execution of our Mission, Vision, and Core Values. Founded in 1991, ECPG maintains a position of neutrality on gambling and gaming, recognizing that gambling is a personal choice and most people who gamble do so for recreation and entertainment and suffer no serious problems. However, for some, gambling and/or gaming can become serious addictions, devastating to the individual and family. These are real public health issues that deserve attention, awareness, and action.

WASHINGTON STATE'S CONFIDENTIAL 24-HOUR

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IT'S YOUR TIME

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To Live the Life You Want



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Addiction Technology Transfer
Center for HHS Region 10

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OREGON PROBLEM GAMBLING RESOURCE

OPGR

TAKE A BREAK

If you've been thinking about your gambling, you might be wondering how much is too much. You might be considering the time and money you've spent or evaluating the way gambling makes you feel. Maybe a loved one has even brought it up once or twice. But where do you start when you're ready to make a change?

HELP YOUR WAY

If you're considering cutting back on gambling – for now or forever – there's help. Oregon Problem Gambling Resource (OPGR) has a free quiz, tools, and an app to help you take charge. Visit OPGR.org and learn how a few small steps can make a big impact.

Call, text or chat. Visit us at OPGR.org



FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

PRE-CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Monday, May 5	
7 - 8 a.m.	
Registration	Foyer
Breakfast and Announcements/Welcome (7:30-7:50 a.m.)	Northwest Ballroom
8 a.m. - Noon	Concurrent Workshops
<i>The Basics of Internet Addiction for Those Working with Gambling Clients</i>	Summit Ballroom
Presented by: Hilarie Cash, PhD, LMHC, CSAT, WSCGC-I	
<p>The lines between gambling and video gaming continue to blur. It is inevitable that a younger set of clients will be showing up for treatment who have never entered a casino; instead, they are gambling online in both recognizable and unrecognizable ways. This workshop will introduce the basics of Internet addiction, a disorder that may not be easy to identify because it has become a cultural norm. Learn the signs and symptoms of Gaming Disorder and other types of Internet addiction. See how the problem develops very early, affecting child development emotionally, physically, socially, academically and in other ways, with potentially devastating long-term consequences. Share ideas on what needs to be done for individuals and families in our care, as well as looking at ways to address the problem at the societal level.</p>	
8 – 10 a.m.	Concurrent Workshops
<i>Ethics in Working with Youth in Addiction Treatment</i>	Alki Rooms
Presented by: Carmela Drake, PhD, LPC-S, NCC, CAADP, ACGC-III	
<p>This presentation will cover ethical considerations when working with adolescents in the field of addiction. The presentation will include an overview of ethical guidelines, federal and state statutes to consider when making an ethical decision. The presentation will introduce several ethical decision-making models and assist the participants in working through an ethical dilemma using one of the models introduced.</p>	





10 a.m. – Noon	Concurrent Workshops
<i>Press Start for Recovery? Unpacking the World of Video Game-Based Gambling Activities</i>	Alki Rooms
Presented by: Daniel Kaufmann, PhD, LMHC, BACC, ICGC-II	
Explore the growing overlap between video games and gambling with critical insights into how these activities impact mental health. This session will take you through the psychological mechanics of video game-based gambling, such as loot boxes, microtransactions, and reward systems that mirror traditional gambling behaviors. What risks do they pose to vulnerable individuals, especially younger gamers? The presentation will also examine the behavioral and emotional toll of these activities, including addiction, financial stress, and their ripple effects on mental well-being. Finally, we'll discuss actionable recovery strategies—ranging from self-awareness tools to therapeutic approaches—that empower individuals to “press start” on healthier gaming habits.	
Noon – 1 p.m. Lunch/Announcements	Northwest Ballroom
1 – 4 p.m.	Concurrent Workshops
[NOTE: Attendees must choose EITHER the 1-4 p.m. Breakout Session OR the 1-5 p.m. Breakout Session – you may not move between the two sessions or attend only the last hour of the 1-5 p.m. session. Thank You!]	
<i>World Café on Growing Gambling Treatment Programs</i>	Summit Ballroom
Presented by: Tana Russell, SUDP, NCTTP, WSCGC-II, CGT; Ginger Johnson, SUDP, WSCGC-I; Rob Maya; Craig McElroy, AAC, SUDP, WSCGC-II, ICGC-II, BACC; Sarah Sense-Wilson (Oglala) LMHC, SUDP, WSCGC-II; Paulina Zyskowski, MPH	
Whether you are growing an existing gambling treatment program, or want to start one from scratch, this interactive round table World Café style workshop will pull together ideas from various perspectives that you can customize to your own program and needs. You'll identify strategies for community outreach; ways that your website and other marketing materials can best capture your unique program; ways that problem gambling services can be integrated with Mental Health and SUD treatment services to best help clients with co-occurring concerns; and more.	

IT'S YOUR LIFE

IT'S YOUR TIME

**Connect With the Help You Need
To Live the Life You Want**



Washington State
Health Care Authority





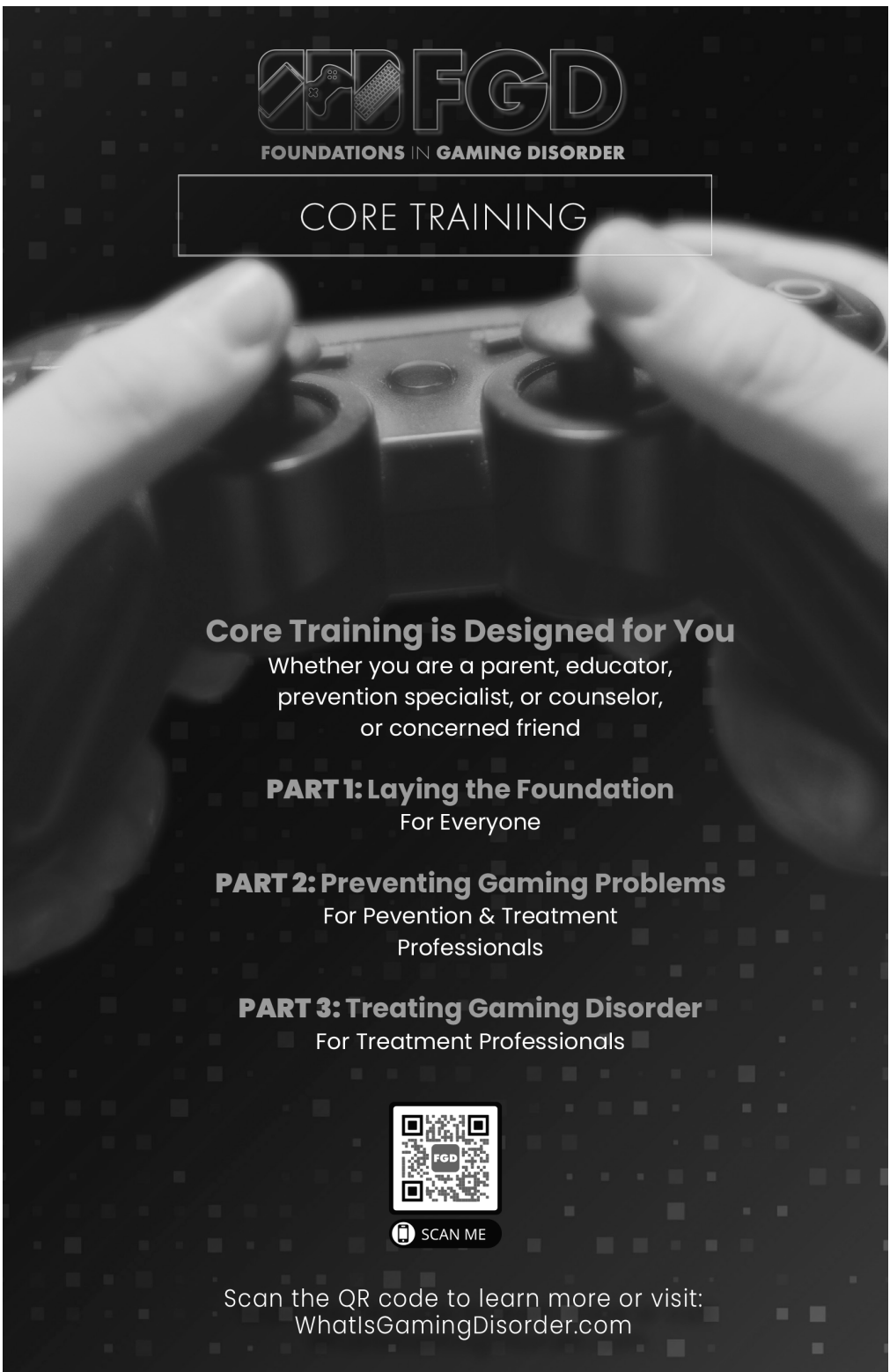
1 – 5 p.m.	Concurrent Workshops
[NOTE: Attendees must choose EITHER the 1-4 p.m. Breakout Session OR the 1-5 p.m. Breakout Session – you may not move between the two sessions or attend only the last hour of the 1-5 p.m. session. Thank You!]	
ASAM Criteria: What’s New in the 4th Edition	Alki Rooms
Presented by: Paul Hunziker, MA, LMFT, SUDP	
<p>The American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) has been at the forefront of advocating for treatment and management of addiction since its founding in 1954. One of its most significant contributions to the field is the development of the ASAM Criteria, a framework that guides clinicians in assessing and treating individuals with substance use disorders. The current transition from the ASAM 3rd edition to the 4th edition which marks a pivotal evolution in this framework. This transition will also require significant changes in assessment practices and how states set up the levels of care outlined by the ASAM standards. This training will introduce all of the changes that have been proposed in the 4th edition. We will discuss how these changes will impact clinicians in making patient placement decisions and what it will mean for facilities to qualify for different levels of care.</p>	
Tuesday, May 6	
7 – 8 a.m.	
Registration	Foyer
Breakfast and Announcements/Welcome (7:30-7:50 a.m.)	Northwest Ballroom
8 a.m. – Noon	Concurrent Workshops
<i>Gambling Group Workbook Facilitator Training for Counselors and Peers</i>	Summit Ballroom
Presented by: Wiley Harwell, D.Min, LPC, ICGC-II, BACC, CGT; Tana Russell, SUDP, NCTTP, WSCGC-II, CGT	
<p>This session will provide attendees with a journey through the workbook for gambling treatment groups or peer-led groups working through the stages of recovery. This workshop is interactive, participants will be asked to contribute ideas for application of the workbook information, activities, and more. Understand group dynamics and options for using the Workbook for Gambling Disorder Recovery; use the tools provided in the workbook to help clients move through various stages of recovery; and improve skills, ideas, and gain tools for making group work interactive.</p> <p>IMPORTANT: This session includes an additional \$10 purchase of the “Workbook for Gambling Disorder Recovery: Activities and Exercises for Groups Led by Counselors or Peer Support Specialists.” Workbook purchases can be made at the conference registration desk.</p>	





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For Everyone

PART 2: Preventing Gaming Problems
For Prevention & Treatment
Professionals

PART 3: Treating Gaming Disorder
For Treatment Professionals



SCAN ME

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WhatIsGamingDisorder.com





Save-the-Date!

Cultural Awareness and Healing Support Conference

FOUR DIRECTIONS



September 8-11, 2025

Clearwater Casino Resort - Suquamish, WA

Four Directions is Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling’s annual fall conference. Many representatives of Tribal Nations in the Pacific Northwest have come together to plan this important conference, with the aim of *Honoring the Past and Protecting the Future* through holistic health, wellness, and recovery support.



EVERGREEN
council on problem gambling

evergreencpg.org



SCAN ME





8 – 10 a.m.	Concurrent Workshops
<i>Finally! A Realistic Approach to Stress Management for Counselors and Clients</i>	Alki Rooms
Presented by: Daniel Overton, MC, LMHC	
<p>There are hundreds of books and whatnot talking about stress management. Many, if not most, describe a way of life that just doesn't seem to apply to most people. In this presentation you will be offered a different approach. The presentation will look at stress elimination, reduction and then, as a last resort, management. The concepts and techniques learned are simple to understand and to apply to one's life without much consternation. In addition, the concepts and techniques are easy to share/ teach to others. . . and just make sense. The techniques have application in daily life but come to play especially when dealing with overcoming addictions and other behavioral health challenges. The group will be led through didactic conversations, with examples, exercises and engaging stories.</p>	
10 a.m. – Noon	Concurrent Workshops
<i>Professional Humility and the Applied Participatory Ethics Model</i>	Alki Rooms
Presented by: James Gurule, MA, LPC	
<p>This workshop invites participants to learn about Professional Humility and the importance of maintaining an ethically respectful, humble and client-oriented stance with the people we are honored to serve. In addition, participants will learn concepts and useful tools that enhance client- inclusion and active client engagement through the Applied Participatory Ethics Model. With invitations to discuss and participate, attendees will learn how our clinical services and important ethical considerations are intricately interwoven and provide opportunities for meaningful client and family engagement.</p>	
Noon – 1 p.m. Lunch/Announcements	Northwest Ballroom



Behavioral Health & Recovery






1 – 4 p.m.	Concurrent Workshops
[NOTE: Attendees must choose EITHER the 1-4 p.m. Breakout Session OR the 1-5 p.m. Breakout Session – you may not move between the two sessions or attend only the last hour of the 1-5 p.m. session. Thank You!]	
<i>Family – Supports, Services, Safety, and Self-Care in Gambling Treatment</i>	Summit Ballroom
Presented by: Denise Quirk, MA, MFT, LCADC, CPGC-S, ICGC-II, BACC	
Support, services, safety, and self-care, will be the primary focus of this interactive presentation dedicated to the 4-to-10 significant others surrounding a person with Gambling Disorder: their family, friends, and co-workers. Support will be identified through research and experience known by the presenter and members of the audience, including peer support and specific needs of one’s community. Services will be outlined and shared with an emphasis on increasing the health and empowerment of families from in-person to telemedicine alternatives. Safety issues specific to the communities we serve will be reviewed. Open discussion and role-play will be used to suggest what is working and what could help for improved safety for our communities. Self-Care ideas and evidence-based findings for individuals, couples, family members, workplaces, isolated and caregiving communities will be shared.	
1 – 5 p.m.	Concurrent Workshops
[NOTE: Attendees must choose EITHER the 1-4 p.m. Breakout Session OR the 1-5 p.m. Breakout Session – you may not move between the two sessions or attend only the last hour of the 1-5 p.m. session. Thank You!]	
<i>Fantasy and Cognitive Distortion: Barriers to Financial Recovery with Gambling Clients</i>	Alki Rooms
Presented by: Jerry Bauerkemper, BS	
This workshop will define how fantasy and cognitive distortions promote financial despair and contribute to the patient’s Gambling Disorder. Further, how these distortions reduce the success of recovery if not addressed in early stages of treatment. Completing a financial assessment and beginning a budget are often essential in early recovery, and yet patients’ inability to determine healthy financial goals and objectives can block any recovery paths.	

Don’t Get Lost in the Crowd!

FLASH YOUR BADGE!

If you’re counting on Continuing Education Credits
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your name badge scanned.



MAIN CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Wednesday, May 7	
7 – 8:15 a.m.	
Registration	Foyer
Breakfast	Northwest Ballroom
8:30 – 10 a.m.	Welcome and Keynote
<i>The Evolution of Motivational Interviewing</i>	Northwest Ballroom
Presented by: William R. Miller, PhD	
As one of the founders of Motivational Interviewing (MI), Dr. Miller will share unique insights into the evolution of MI over several decades. MI is an evidence-based practice that has proven effectiveness in helping people make behavioral changes. Since its development for use with SUD clients, it has expanded into the fields of public health, medical care, criminal justice, education, sports, and family systems. Learn how MI continues to evolve and how it supports other treatment methods.	
10 – 10:15 a.m. Break/Exhibits	Northwest Ballroom Foyer
10:15 – 11:45 a.m.	Concurrent Breakout Sessions
<i>Gaming More, Sleeping Less: Caffeine Use as a Mediator Between Gaming and Sleep Concerns in Youth</i>	Alki Rooms
Presented by: Jennifer Park, PhD	
Caffeine is the most commonly used substance among adolescents who play video games – frequently consumed to compensate for lost sleep or boost gaming performance. Using data from the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development study, this course will discuss caffeine use as a potential pathway through which problematic gaming behaviors may impact sleep difficulties in developing youth. The course will highlight the implications of a mediating role of caffeine consumption using a public health framework, offering insights that may guide healthy gaming guidelines, problematic gaming treatment, and policies around the accessibility and marketing of caffeine to adolescents. Additionally, this course will review Gaming Disorder as a formal diagnosis in the ICD-11 and Internet Gaming Disorder as a “condition for further study” in the DSM-5, and outline how clinicians might identify individuals with gaming and caffeine use concerns.	
<i>Breaking the Cycle: A Journey from Gambling Disorder to Lasting Recovery</i>	Summit Ballroom
Presented by: Ken Martz, PsyD, CAS, ICGC-II, BACC and Rob Minnick	
In this session, personal narrative intertwines with evidence-based research to clarify the complexities of gambling addiction and the road to recovery. Through the courageous story of an individual in recovery from Gambling Disorder, attendees will gain profound insights into the struggles, triumphs, and transformative journey toward wellness. A clinical psychologist, specializing in gambling and emotional disorders, will delve into the latest research on risk factors, ineffective coping mechanisms, and effective treatment approaches, offering practical strategies for sustainable recovery.	



Noon – 12:30 p.m. Lunch/Announcements	Northwest Ballroom
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch Plenary
<i>Women and Problem Gambling: Intersectional Complexities and Opportunities for Success</i>	Northwest Ballroom
Presented by: Alyssa Wilson, PhD	
<p>Gambling is a global and cross-cultural form of entertainment that continues to expand and become easier and easier to access. Traditionally, discussions surrounding gambling-related issues have been centered on male experiences, leaving a critical gap in understanding the challenges faced by women and non-male presenting adults in this domain. Recently, research has begun to recognize the nature of women’s gambling activities, motivations, and harmful patterns. This presentation aims to provide a comprehensive overview of the often-overlooked intersection between gender and problem gambling. The presentation will discuss the psychological and socio-cultural challenges faced by women, and how those intersectional variables may influence women’s involvement in problematic or risky gambling. Unique solutions and targeted interventions or support systems tailored for women will also be discussed.</p>	
1:30 – 1:45 p.m. Break/Exhibits	Northwest Ballroom Foyer
1:45 – 3 p.m.	Concurrent Breakout Sessions
<i>Gambling Incentives and Loneliness in Older Adults</i>	Summit Ballroom
Presented by: Mark van der Maas. PhD	
<p>While younger cohorts are moving to online spaces to participate in gambling, older adults continue to attend land-based venues in relatively high numbers. This presentation will discuss the reasons that older adults are interested in visiting casinos and their relative connections to experiencing gambling-related harm. This session will also cover some of the different ways that gambling venues use to get older adults in the door, again exploring their associations with harm. The session will end with a question-and-answer period.</p>	

It Takes a Community To Overcome Problem Gambling

We're here to help those struggling with gambling problems, find help and community.

24/7 Confidential Helpline:

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1-800-547-6133
 evergreencpg.org





1:45 – 3 p.m.	Concurrent Breakout Sessions
<i>Health Risks of Sports Betting Among Young Adults</i>	Alki Rooms
Presented by: Joey Lambuth and Arvin Shaygan	
Sports betting is the fastest growing gambling behavior, and is especially prevalent among young adults. Gambling as a whole, but sports betting in particular, is a relatively neglected public health concern. How does sports betting coincide with, or propel, problems with substance use and mental health symptomology in young adults. This presentation focuses on how these behaviors fluctuate together over time, and how the intersection of sports betting with substance use and mental health can have adverse long-term effects on young adults' health and well-being. The knowledge for how sports betting relates to other health concerns can inform more holistic treatment and prevention efforts to address these potentially comorbid concerns simultaneously. Moreover, their intersections may enable new inroads to treatment; for example, working with patients to reduce problem sports betting may also entail focusing on improving mental health and/or reducing substance use patterns.	
3 – 3:15 p.m. Break/Exhibits	Northwest Ballroom Foyer
3:15 – 4:30 p.m.	Concurrent Breakout Sessions
<i>Youth Have the Power: Public Health Education for Young Audiences</i>	Summit Ballroom
Presented by: Paulina Zyskowski, MPH	
Conventional health education programs for middle and high schoolers typically focus on disease outcomes and prevention of individual risk-taking behavior. Using a public health approach instead investigates the systemic forces (social, political, environmental, and economic) that affect health. Framing health in this context recognizes that intersecting disparities and upstream factors are major drivers of individual health. With this approach, students have the opportunity to recognize and begin advocating for improvements to their community's health. In this session, participants will learn the fundamentals of a public health-focused education program, investigate why some health education programs are no longer in practice, and work collaboratively to develop a classroom lesson plan about gambling based on a public health model.	
<i>Changing Directions – Taking Charge of the Rest of Your Life</i>	Alki Rooms
Presented by: Daniel Overton, MC, LMHC	
We are habitual creatures and often those habits are destructive and toxic. That, unfortunately, does not make them easier to break. We are hard wired in many ways that make the traditional techniques of changing behaviors ineffective. Taking a nod from many of the more effective techniques and adding some lessons learned over the years, this presentation will bring a new and novel approach to behavior change that is easy to apply, long lasting, and effective in the long term. The group will be led through didactic conversation, with examples, exercises, and engaging stories.	





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A HEALTHY GAMBLING AND GAMING PODCAST

SOCIAL MEDIA, BLOG, AND EVENTS



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CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS / GAMBLING COUNSELOR CERTIFICATION

Nearly 30 Continuing Education Units (CEUs)/Hours

The Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling is an Approved Provider of Continuing Education by The National Association for Addiction Professionals (NAADAC) and the International Problem Gambling and Gaming Certification Organization (IPGGC). Our workshops have also been approved for continuing education by the Mental Health and Addictions Certification Board of Oregon (MHACBO), the American Academy of Health Care Providers in the Addictive Disorders (AAHCPAD), and the Canadian Addiction Counsellors Certification Federation (CACCF).



American Academy
of Health Care Providers
IN THE
Addictive Disorders



PROBLEM GAMBLING HELP AND RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE FOR
BLACK, INDIGENOUS, AND PEOPLE OF COLOR COMMUNITIES

We encourage all individuals and their families to reach out
and find the help they need and deserve.



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IS
HERE**



GamblingHelpForAll.org

SCHEDULE-AT-A-GLANCE: PRE-CONFERENCE

Monday, May 5				
7 - 8 a.m.	Registration			Foyer
	Breakfast and Announcements/Welcome (7:30-7:50 a.m.)			Northwest Ballroom
8 a.m. - Noon	Concurrent Workshops	Hilarie Cash, PhD, LMHC, CSAT, WSCGC-I	<i>The Basics of Internet Addiction for Those Working with Gambling Clients</i>	Summit Ballroom
8 - 10 a.m.		Carmela Drake, PhD, LPC-S, NCC, CAADP, ACGC-III	<i>Ethics in Working with Youth in Addiction Treatment</i>	Alki Rooms
10 a.m. - Noon		Daniel Kaufmann, PhD, LMHC, BACC, ICGC-II	<i>Press Start for Recovery? Unpacking the World of Video Game-Based Gambling Activities</i>	Alki Rooms
Noon - 1 p.m.	Lunch/Announcements			Northwest Ballroom
[NOTE: Attendees must choose EITHER the 1-4 p.m. Breakout Session OR the 1-5 p.m. Breakout Session – you may not move between the two sessions or attend only the last hour of the 1-5 p.m. session. Thank You!]				
1 - 4 p.m.	Concurrent Workshops	<i>World Café on Growing Gambling Treatment Programs</i> Panel: Tana Russell, SUDP, NCTTP, WSCGC-II, CGT; Ginger Johnson, SUDP, WSCGC-I; Rob Maya; Craig McElroy, AAC, SUDP, WSCGC-II, ICGC-II, BACC; Sarah Sense-Wilson (Oglala) LMHC, SUDP, WSCGC-II; Paulina Zyskowski, MPH		Summit Ballroom
1 - 5 p.m.		Paul Hunziker, MA, LMFT, SUDP	<i>ASAM Criteria: What's New in the 4th Edition</i>	Alki Rooms

Tuesday, May 6				
7 - 8 a.m.	Registration and Breakfast			Foyer
	Breakfast and Announcements/Welcome (7:30-7:50 a.m.)			Northwest Ballroom
8 a.m. - Noon	Concurrent Workshops	Wiley Harwell, D.Min, LPC, ICGC-II, BACC, CGT; Tana Russell, SUDP, NCTTP, WSCGC-II, CGT	<i>Gambling Group Workbook Facilitator Training for Counselors and Peers</i>	Summit Ballroom
8 - 10 a.m.		Daniel Overton, MC, LMHC	<i>Finally! A Realistic Approach to Stress Management for Counselors and Clients</i>	Alki Rooms



10 a.m. - Noon		James Gurule, MA, LPC	<i>Professional Humility and the Applied Participatory Ethics Model</i>	Alki Rooms
Noon - 1 p.m.	Lunch/Announcements			Northwest Ballroom
	[NOTE: Attendees must choose EITHER the 1-4 p.m. Breakout Session OR the 1-5 p.m. Breakout Session – you may not move between the two sessions or attend only the last hour of the 1-5 p.m. session. Thank You!]			
1 - 4 p.m.	Concurrent Workshops	Denise Quirk, MA, MFT, LCADC, CPGC-S, ICGC-II, BACC	<i>Family – Supports, Services, Safety, and Self-Care in Gambling Treatment</i>	Summit Ballroom
1 - 5 p.m.		Jerry Bauerkemper, BS	<i>Fantasy and Cognitive Distortion: Barriers to Financial Recovery with Gambling Clients</i>	Alki Rooms

SCHEDULE-AT-A-GLANCE: MAIN CONFERENCE

Wednesday, May 7				
7 - 8:15 a.m.	Registration			Foyer
	Breakfast			Northwest Ballroom
8:30 - 10 a.m.	Welcome and Keynote	William R. Miller, PhD	<i>The Evolution of Motivational Interviewing</i>	Northwest Ballroom
10 - 10:15 a.m.	Break / Exhibits Northwest Ballroom Foyer			
10:15 - 11:45 a.m.	Concurrent Breakout Sessions	Jennifer Park, PhD	<i>Gaming More, Sleeping Less: Caffeine Use as a Mediator Between Gaming and Sleep Concerns in Youth</i>	Alki Rooms
		Ken Martz, PsyD, CAS, ICGC-II, BACC and Rob Minnick	<i>Breaking the Cycle: A Journey from Gambling Disorder to Lasting Recovery</i>	Summit Ballroom
Noon - 12:30 p.m.	Lunch/Announcements			Northwest Ballroom
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch Plenary	Alyssa Wilson, PhD	<i>Women and Problem Gambling: Intersectional Complexities and Opportunities for Success</i>	Northwest Ballroom
1:30 - 1:45 p.m.	Break / Exhibits Northwest Ballroom Foyer			
1:45 - 3 p.m.	Concurrent Breakout Sessions	Mark van der Maas, PhD	<i>Gambling Incentives and Loneliness in Older Adults</i>	Summit Ballroom





		Joey Lambuth and Arvin Shaygan	<i>Health Risks of Sports Betting Among Young Adults</i>	Alki Rooms
3 - 3:15 p.m.	Break / Exhibits			Northwest Ballroom Foyer
3:15 - 4:30 p.m.	Concurrent Breakout Sessions	Paulina Zyskowski, MPH	<i>Youth Have the Power: Public Health Education for Young Audiences</i>	Summit Ballroom
		Daniel Overton, MC, LMHC	<i>Changing Directions – Taking Charge of the Rest of Your Life</i>	Alki Rooms

Thursday, May 8				
7:30 - 8:15 a.m.	Registration			Foyer
	Breakfast			Northwest Ballroom
8:30 - 10 a.m.	Welcome and Keynote	<i>Good Morning, Seattle! Cultural Humility and Therapeutic Alliance in a Chaotic World</i> Panel: Dorothy Capers, LICSW, CGC in Training; Timothy Fong, MD; Jose Garcia, CADC-II, CGAC-I; Ty Lostutter, PhD; Alyssa Wilson, PhD, BCBA-D, LBA (MO), ICGC-I; Maureen Greeley, Facilitator		Northwest Ballroom
10 - 10:30 a.m.	Break / Exhibits / Checkout			Northwest Ballroom Foyer / Hotel Registration
10:30 - 11:45 a.m.	Concurrent Breakout Sessions	Roxane Waldron, MPA and Jeremy Whitaker, Ed.D, MPH, CPH	<i>Leveraging State Resources for Problem Gambling Support and Prevention</i>	Summit Ballroom
		Glenn Yamagata, MPhil	<i>Cryptocurrencies, NFTs, and DeFi: New Frontiers in Problem Gambling</i>	Alki Rooms
Noon - 12:30 pm.	Lunch / Announcements			Northwest Ballroom
12:30 - 1:45 p.m.	Lunch Plenary	Timothy Fong, MD	<i>A Deeper Dive into Stock Market and Financial Tech Trading – Is It Gambling?</i>	Northwest Ballroom
1:45 - 2 p.m.	Break / Exhibits			Northwest Ballroom Foyer
2 - 3:30 p.m.	Concurrent Breakout Sessions	Ken Martz, PsyD, CAS, ICGC-II, BACC	<i>Through Fear to Recovery</i>	Alki Rooms
		Saul Malek	<i>A Young Person’s Guide to Guiding Young People: Relevant and Engaging Prevention</i>	Summit Ballroom





Thursday, May 8	
7:30 - 8:15 a.m.	
Registration	Foyer
Breakfast	Northwest Ballroom
8:30 – 10 a.m.	Welcome and Keynote
Good Morning, Seattle! Cultural Humility and Therapeutic Alliance in a Chaotic World	Northwest Ballroom
Presented by: Dorothy Capers, LICSW, CGC in Training; Timothy Fong, MD; Jose Garcia, CADC-II, CGAC-I; Ty Lostutter, PhD; Alyssa Wilson, PhD, BCBA-D, LBA (MO), ICGC-I; Maureen Greeley, Facilitator	
It's a chaotic time in our country and our world, and that is having critical impacts on Mental Health issues from prevalence to funding; and from breaking down barriers to fighting steps backward in ensuring mental health equity. It's a good time to check our own challenges, biases, and even fears around these issues and how this impacts the services we provide. A panel of regional and national experts in the field will explore emerging issues, attitudes, and trends that are shaping our work around gambling and gaming treatment, prevention, awareness, and legislation.	
10 – 10:30 a.m. Break/Exhibits /Hotel Checkout	Northwest Ballroom Foyer/ Hotel Registration

TRAINING // COUNSELOR CERTIFICATION

Washington State Gambling Counselor Certification

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Get STARTed with Responsible Gaming
Responsible Gaming Support, Training, And Resources





10:30 – 11:45 a.m.	Concurrent Breakout Sessions
<i>Leveraging State Resources for Problem Gambling Support and Prevention</i>	Summit Ballroom
Presented by: Roxane Waldron, MPA and Jeremy Whitaker, Ed.D, MPH, CPH	
<p>How does gambling affect people in WA State and how many are impacted by a gambling addiction? Are Youth/Young Adults and other groups at increased risk for gambling and gaming disorders? What can be done? Learn how the WA State Problem Gambling Program and partners are addressing these topics and more, including Prevention (the overlap between gaming and gambling, what risk and protective factors need to be considered, and resources), Treatment (the process flow for screening/assessment, and referral/treatment), and Recovery options. Small groups discussion will offer the opportunity to identify prevention and treatment alternatives that can be integrated into specific settings, such as private practice, behavioral health agency, prevention coalition, peer counseling, youth organization, college health & wellness center, and more. A resource list will be provided.</p>	
<i>Cryptocurrencies, NFTs, and DeFi: New Frontiers in Problem Gambling</i>	Alki Rooms
Presented by: Glenn Yamagata, MPhil	
<p>In this presentation, we will explore the interconnected world of cryptocurrencies, non-fungible tokens (NFTs), and decentralized finance (DeFi). We'll discuss how these digital innovations are transforming global financial systems and fueling speculative behaviors. Additionally, we will highlight the specific risks these technologies pose for individuals vulnerable to problem gambling, review studies linking these activities to gambling disorders, and provide guidance on identifying individuals whose behaviors may indicate gambling-related issues. The goal of the presentation is to inform, equip, and empower attendees to navigate this complex intersection of technology, finance, and addiction.</p>	
Noon – 12:30 p.m. Lunch/Announcements	Northwest Ballroom
12:30 – 1:45 p.m.	Lunch Plenary
<i>A Deeper Dive into Stock Market and Financial Tech Trading – Is It Gambling?</i>	Northwest Ballroom
Presented by: Timothy Fong, MD	
<p>The appeal of high-risk, speculative investments is real for many people. The distinction between investing and gambling can be subtle and subjective. Whether you view financial trading from an investing lens or speculating as gambling, the risk of gambling-related harms among financial traders appears to be amplified by new financial technologies, which have increased access to riskier financial assets and have encouraged riskier trading behaviors. This session will explore the rising overlap between stock trading, cryptocurrency markets, and online sports betting in the digital age. As these platforms evolve and gain popularity, they increasingly share common traits—accessibility, fast-paced decision-making, and the potential for addictive behavior. Experts will delve into the psychological triggers that drive engagement in these spaces, the challenges of regulating and treating gambling behaviors across these platforms, and the impact of technology on investor and bettor psychology. Attendees will gain insights into how these markets may feed into each other, the risks involved, and the need for comprehensive strategies in both prevention and treatment for those at risk of harm.</p>	





1:45– 2 p.m. Break/Exhibits	Northwest Ballroom Foyer
2 – 3:30 p.m.	Concurrent Breakout Sessions
<i>Through Fear to Recovery</i>	Alki Rooms
Presented by: Ken Martz, PsyD, CAS, ICGC-II, BACC	
<p>Fear is a primary emotion leading to substance use and gambling disorders and can often be misunderstood as resistance. This session will review research on fear and steps to create change in the cognitive and behavioral growth in recovery. Specific emphasis will examine fear as a motivator and barrier to seeking effective growth from secrets toward long-term success. The presentation will link fear through a range of motivations, for example, fear of being “found out,” fear of helplessness, and fear of isolation. In contrast, recovery markers include the courage of trust, conviction, hope, and a range of interpersonal connections. The session will balance a didactic review and experiential techniques to facilitate learning through effective adult learning principles and varied learning styles.</p>	
<i>A Young Person’s Guide to Guiding Young People: Relevant and Engaging Prevention</i>	Summit Ballroom
Presented by: Saul Malek	
<p>Prevention talks, while necessary, can be challenging to deliver. It can be difficult in particular to capture student focus. This session will demonstrate how to keep youth audiences attentive through engaging methods of storytelling and communication. As someone who has spoken to a variety of different audiences, Saul has learned how to craft a unique message each time- one that is culturally appropriate and easy to follow. Additionally, he recognizes the importance of educating students holistically, teaching them emotional coping skills rather than simply discouraging the act of gambling. This session provides the audience with an opportunity to test out their skills – separating audience members into groups where they will be tasked with crafting their own prevention message.</p>	



Residential Treatment Services for Gambling Disorder
(for Washington State Residents)

To determine if your clients may be eligible for funding support for residential treatment contact the Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling: info@evergreencpg.org





PRESENTERS



Jerry Bauerkemper, BS, CCGC, is the retired Executive Director of the Nebraska Council on Compulsive Gambling. Mr. Bauerkemper was the first director of problem gambling for the state of Nebraska. He is an internationally recognized trainer on Problem Gambling. Currently, he is a consultant for the Iowa gambling program helping agencies increase gambling utilization after COVID!



Dorothy Capers, LICSW, CGC-Trainee, is a private practice therapist and the Founder/Director of Show Me Foundation. With experience in mental health counseling, social work, and clinical psychology, she has worked in diverse settings, including primary care integration, school-based interventions, and community mental health services. Dorothy specializes in evidence-based practices, crisis intervention, and culturally responsive care, emphasizing the importance of cultural humility in fostering a stronger therapeutic alliance. Her work reflects a commitment to serving marginalized communities and supporting individuals in navigating complex psychosocial challenges.



Hilarie Cash, PhD, LMHC, CSAT, WSCGC-I, co-founded reSTART Life in 2009, where she is Chief Clinical Officer. reSTART is the first US/Canada residential program designed explicitly for adults experiencing addiction to the internet and video games. reSTART offers a transition program for adults, and outpatient services. Hilarie began her work in the field of Internet addiction in the mid-90s, and has been training parents, therapists, researchers, and educators ever since. She co-authored *Video Games and Your Kids: How Parents Stay in Control*, several peer-reviewed journal articles, and a workbook (*Internet Technology and Video Game Addiction*). She is recognized as one of the nation's leading clinical experts in the field of Internet Addiction and Gaming Disorder.



Carmela Drake, PhD, CAADP, ACGC-III, NCC, LPC-S, is the owner of GFG Counseling and Consulting Services. She is also an Associate Professor and Program Coordinator at Alabama State University. She earned a PhD in Human Services, with a concentration in Counseling Studies, and obtained her Master of Science degree in Counseling and Human Development from Troy University- Montgomery. Dr. Drake is a Certified Adolescent Alcohol and Drug Professional (CAADP), a Certified Compulsive Gambling Counselor, level III (ACGC-III), a National Certified Counselor (NCC), and a Licensed Professional Counselor and Clinical Supervisor (LPC-S) in the state of Alabama. She has worked in the field of addiction and mental health for more than 20 years.

PRESENTERS



Timothy Fong, MD, board certified in adult and addiction psychiatry, is a Professor of Psychiatry at the Jane and Terry Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior at UCLA. He is co-director of the UCLA Gambling Studies Program, which examines clinical characteristics of Gambling Disorder in order to develop effective, evidence-based prevention and treatment strategies. Dr. Fong is a member of the Steering Committee of the UCLA Center for Cannabis and Cannabinoids whose mission is to address the most pressing questions related to the impact of cannabis legalization. He is a member of the UCLA Sports Psychiatry Service and is part of the UCLA Sports Medicine Mental Health Team. He is the President-Elect of the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry.



Jose Garcia, CADC-II, CGAC-I, has been a SUD and gambling counselor since 1995. He is currently program director for New Horizon Programs in Eastern Oregon. Jose is also the chair of the Hispanic Advisory Committee in Hermiston, Oregon. He also is part of the Multicultural Advisory Committee for the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), and has served on the board of directors of the Mental Health & Addiction Certification Board of Oregon (MHACBO) since 2011. He also is a radio host on a Sunday morning show called La Voz Del pueblo- The Voice of the Town, where he shares information for the Latino population.



Maureen Greeley has worked in the Problem and Responsible Gambling Field with and for the Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling for 27 years. In 2006, Greeley accepted the role of Executive Director for ECPG. Maureen has also worked with the National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG) since 1999, and will complete 11 years of service on the NCPG Board in 2025, including three terms as President. In 2018, Greeley received NCPG's Lifetime Achievement Award for Advocacy – recognizing dedication to improving the lives of individuals impacted by problem gambling and their families through advocacy, training, and public awareness. Greeley is a member of the Washington State Healthcare Authority's Disordered Gambling Advisory Workgroup.



James Gurule, MA, LPC, is a Licensed Professional Counselor with more than four decades of clinical experience in community mental health as a Child and Family Therapist and Clinical Supervisor. James provided clinical supervision and trainings for Lifeworks NW staff, and as the Lead Risk Manager for the agency, regularly consulted with staff regarding a wide variety of clinical practices and numerous ethical challenges. James received a BS in Psychology from the University of New Mexico in 1981, an MA in Counseling Psychology from the University of Notre Dame in 1985, and became an LPC in Oregon in 1995. James is an Approved Supervisor with the Oregon Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists.



Problem Gambling Specialty Endorsement

for Financial Professionals

There are a lot of problem gambling warning signs that financial service professionals may be better equipped to address or to spot than others.

Learn about problem gambling, the warning signs of gambling addiction and how it relates to financial issues, and most importantly how and when to refer to a certified problem gambling counselor.

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- Downloadable 150-page workbook
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- **Support Service Locator** Directory Listing*

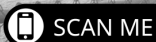
FSE INTRO COURSE ONLY

- 1 CPE credit
- Access to Fact Sheet and Resource List

* Must meet eligibility requirements

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council on problem gambling





PRESENTERS



Wiley Harwell, D. Min, LPC, ICGC-II, BACC, CGT is the Executive Director of Oklahoma Association on Problem Gambling and Gaming (OAPGG). OAPGG is the state affiliate for the National Council on Problem Gambling of which Wiley has been a board member for six years and held the office of board president for two years. OAPGG offers advocacy for problem gambling clients and their family members, provides the problem gambling helpline, works with all the tribes for responsible gambling programs and trains all the counselors in Oklahoma to become a certified gambling counselor. Wiley has taught problem gambling and mindfulness classes across the United States.



Paul Hunziker MA, LMFT, SUDP, is a professional trainer and is also in private practice in Tacoma, WA. Paul is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, Substance Use Disorder Professional and an American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy Approved Supervisor. Paul facilitates training in many different topics including: Motivational Interviewing, Clinical Supervision, The ASAM Patient Placement Criteria, and Family Based Programming. He has been a member of the Motivational Interviewing Network of Trainers (MINT) since 2014. Paul has a background in experiential education and looks to create training events which engage participants through multiple learning styles.



Ginger Johnson, SUDP, WSCGC-I, has been serving individuals impacted by substance use and gambling disorders for the past 25 years. She has worked in multiple levels of care from detox to involuntary/voluntary long term inpatient treatment. Her passion has been to treat individuals affected by gambling. In every level of care, she has seen the common threads that are underlying in addictions. She has completed the requirements for level I for the Washington State Gambling Counselor Certification, and is working toward Level II.



Daniel Kaufmann, PhD, LMHC, BACC, ICGC-II, is an Associate Professor and has served in multiple roles related to program development for gaming and geek therapy training for a variety of clinical settings. His research on the psychology of player types has been presented internationally and continues to evolve with each new world players can inhabit across PCs and consoles. Dr. Kaufmann's publications cover the areas of video games, personality theory, online education, and counselor development. He offers supervision to an international list of clinicians to help bridge the gap in learning about technological impact on society and specific insights related to effectively using games as a positive addition to treatment for clients.



Joseph "Joey" Lambuth's introduction to research began with an exploration of the antecedents and potential harms of sports betting. From recruitment to the study's conclusion, he has played a close role in maintaining the strong progress of Project HOBBS (Health Outcomes of Sports Betting). He gained a stronger understanding of sports betting through this role and the extensive review of the literature surrounding the topic.



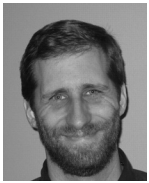
PRESENTERS



Ty W. Lostutter, PhD, Assistant Professor and Training Director of the Psychology Internship Program for the University of Washington's School of Medicine, received his doctorate in Clinical Psychology at UW. Dr. Lostutter's broad research and clinical interests focus on etiology, prevention, and treatment of addictive behaviors and mental health. His research includes college student drinking prevention, gambling prevention, alcohol and HIV prevention among youth in Vietnam; and alcohol use, academic performance and mental health among college student veterans of Afghanistan and Iraq. He has served on the ECPG Board for more than 15 years and as the Board President for the past several terms, and previously served on the board of the National Council on Problem Gambling.



Saul Malek developed a gambling addiction as a college sophomore, losing money, time, relationships, and nearly his life. Since entering recovery in 2019, he has become an in-demand speaker, sharing his story with schools (both high school and college), athlete mental health organizations, suicide prevention groups, parent groups, popular news outlets (including New York Times, National Public Radio, Public Broadcasting Service, and Dallas Morning News). He has appeared on Dr Phil Primetime and was a TedX speaker at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.



Kenneth J. Martz, PsyD, CAS, ICGC-II, BACC is a licensed psychologist with more than 30 years' experience in the treatment and management of gambling and other addictive disorders. He was formerly the Special Assistant to the Secretary for the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Dr. Martz has a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology. His publications include: *Manage My Emotions: What I Wish I'd Learned in School about Anger, Fear and Love*; *Manage My Addiction*, and *Counselor: Tricks for Blossoming from Good to Great*. He has presented more than 100 local, national, and internal presentations on addictions.



Rob Maya, ECPG Communications Manager, has done project work with the Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling as a designer, developer, and volunteer since 2007. His first project working with ECPG was to develop the Council's new brand and logo. Rob has built a career in the web technology and software industry that spans more than 21 years. In that time, he has been a designer, web and marketing consultant, owner/partner of a web design firm, and filled roles at various development organizations ranging from marketing and social media, designer, and web application pre-development system architect. Rob joined the ECPG staff in September 2019.



Craig McElroy, LMHCA, SUDP, ICGC-II, WSCGC-II, BACC, is in private practice and previously ran the gambling treatment program at New Horizon Care Center in Spokane, WA, and has been working solely with individuals impacted by gambling problems for more than five years. He developed the 2.1 Intensive Outpatient program for gambling treatment at New Horizon Care Centers as well as developing the curriculum for that program.



IPGGC Exam Prep eCourse

With so many motivated counselors across the nation preparing each year to take the International Problem Gambling and Gaming Certification Organization (IPGGC) Gambling Counselor exam, the Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling (ECPG) and our partners wanted to do more to help counselors feel prepared and confident when actually taking the exam. Certification is a challenging and worthwhile achievement. This course is designed to supplement your study and core trainings with practice exam questions, listings of study resource materials, and test-taking tips. The self-paced program allows you to study on your own schedule — from your PC, phone, or tablet. Once you are registered, you can return to the eCourse as often as you'd like for as long as 120 days.

Program Goals:

- To provide an overview of what counselors can expect from the certification and examination process.
- To provide at least 100 practice questions that model the style, topics, and types of questions that will appear on the exam.
- To provide study resources and sources of reliable information and best practices on the treatment of Problem Gambling and Gambling Disorder.
- To help clinicians develop their knowledge and skills while preparing to take the exam.

PROGRAM DETAILS

ESTIMATED TIME TO COMPLETE: 2 hours

FORMAT: Online Self-Paced Study

PRICE: \$22 (ECPG Member)/ \$25 (Non-member)

CE CREDITS: 2

Approved for CE hours by: NAADAC, IPGGC
AAHCPAD, and MHACBO

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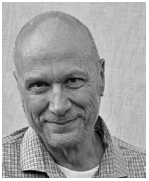
PRESENTERS



William R. (Bill) Miller, PhD, is Emeritus Distinguished Professor of Psychology and Psychiatry at the University of New Mexico, where he served as Director of Clinical Training for the PhD program in clinical psychology and co-founder of the Center on Alcohol, Substance Use and Addictions (CASAA). Dr. Miller's publications include 67 books and more than 450 articles and chapters including the original 1983 description of motivational interviewing. He has served as a consultant to many organizations including the United States Senate, the World Health Organization, the National Academy of Sciences, and the National Institutes of Health. In recognition of his research contributions, Dr. Miller is a recipient of two career achievement awards from the American Psychological Association, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.



Rob Minnick, ICGC-I, known as ODAAT Gambling Awareness online, is a gambling addiction recovery content creator. He made his last bet on November 12, 2022, and now reaches an average of 15 million people monthly across all platforms, sharing the story of his addiction and subsequent recovery in an effort to help others avoid making the same mistakes that he did. Rob graduated from Georgetown University in 2021 with an undergraduate degree in Anthropology and has now become a full-time content creator. His target audience is made up of young men and women between the ages of 18-30, and he shares his story with them on a daily basis.



Daniel Overton, MC, NCC, LMHC, a Certified Brain Injury Specialist with a Master's Degree in Counseling, has been a licensed mental health counselor for nearly three decades. He has served on boards and commissions related to brain injury and on the Arizona and Washington state Brain Injury Councils. He has developed programs for inpatient and outpatient substance use and mental health disorders in the public and private sector as a clinician, supervisor, and director. After spending time as the Director of Behavioral Health for the Quinault Indian Nation he is thrilled to be able to be a part of such a dynamic and important gathering as this.



Jennifer Jiyun Park, PhD, is a Postdoctoral Associate at the Yale School of Medicine. Jennifer's research on Gaming Disorder began in 2018 as an undergraduate student. Since then, she has dedicated her academic career to understanding Gaming Disorder and providing support to individuals who wish to quit or better manage gaming habits. Jennifer's PhD in Population Health identified key components of an optimal health system for Gaming Disorder and developed/tested the effectiveness of a brief online intervention for gaming reduction. She was awarded a competitive research grant to undertake this work during her PhD, allowing her to lead a team that provided help to more than 200 individuals experiencing gaming-related harm.



PRESENTERS



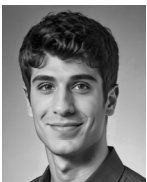
Denise Quirk, MA, MFT, LCADC, CPGC-S, ICGC-II, BACC, is a certified clinical supervisor and gambling counselor specializing in treatment for families. She founded the non-profit Reno Problem Gambling Center, which served families affected by Gambling Disorder for 16 years. Denise created and teaches an online problem gambling course for the University of Nevada, Reno. She serves on the Board of the Nevada Council on Problem Gambling and is a member of the Nevada Governor’s Advisory Committee for Problem Gambling. Denise is co-author of *Gambling Patient Placement Criteria*, and a field reviewer for *The ASAM Criteria*. Denise’s private practice, Red Hawk Counseling, has been her outpatient one-woman therapy and consulting business since 1992.



Tana Russell SUDP, NCTTP, WSCGC-II, CGT, became Assistant Director at Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling in 2019 and Deputy Director in 2024. She holds certifications as a Substance Use Disorder Professional (SUDP), Washington State Certified Gambling Counselor II (WSCGC-II), Nationally Certified Tobacco Treatment Provider (NCTTP), Certified Gambling Disorder Trainer (CGT), and has completed specialized training and study on video/internet gaming disorder. She serves on NCPG committees, the Washington State Gambling Counselor Certification Committee, and several other workgroups and committees.



Sarah Sense-Wilson (Oglala), LMHC, SUDP, WSCGC-II, IGDC, serves as Tulalip Tribe’s Problem Gambling Coordinator at Tulalip Behavioral Wellness Center. Ms. Sense-Wilson has worked in Tulalip for the past 9 years and prior to her role at Tulalip, she worked in Suquamish and in Seattle area as a clinician in various capacities. Ms. Sense-Wilson is a WA state approved gambling counselor supervisor and is co-founder of the Problem Gambling Intertribal Providers Coalition. Ms. Sense-Wilson has assisted in co-developing problem gambling services and programs in tribal communities throughout the region. Ms. Sense-Wilson is highly motivated to expand, improve and implement effective strategies for restoring wellness and health for those impacted by problem gambling.



Arvin Shaygan is a graduating senior at the University of Washington completing a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and Psychology. He is a member of a lab group at the University of Washington that focuses on assessing the co-occurrence of risk-behaviors in young adults (e.g., gambling, sports betting, and substance abuse) and health concerns relating to mental health and well-being in order to aid in prevention efforts. Shaygan has several publications in the field of sports betting research, most notably a recent publication in *Psychiatry Research*, assessing the mental health correlates of problem sports betting among young adults.

A NEW YOUTH PROBLEM GAMBLING PREVENTION PROGRAM



PRESENTERS



Mark van der Maas, PhD, is an Assistant Professor at the School of Social Work at Rutgers University, and core faculty member of the Center for Gambling Studies. His research interests include capturing the impacts of gambling market expansion and online gambling communities. He is particularly interested in understanding the impacts of gambling on understudied subpopulations such as older adults, and military members and veterans. His research is supported by the International Center for Responsible Gambling, Canadian Institutes of Health Research, and Rutgers University.



Roxane Waldron, MPA is the Administrator of the WA State Problem Gambling Program within the Division of Behavioral Health & Recovery at the Health Care Authority. She's worked as a project and program manager in the health field since 2006 including at the WA State Dept. of Health, the Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling, the WA Association for Community Health, and as a Mental Health Training Coordinator for the University of WA. She has been a member of the Problem Gambling Task Force, Washington State Gambling Counselor Certification Committee, and the Disordered Gambling Advisory Workgroup among many other committees and workgroups.



Jeremy Whitaker, EdD, MPH, CPH, is the Problem Gambling Prevention Coordinator at the Washington State Health Care Authority. He recently moved to Washington from Iowa, where he spent the last eight years as a college professor, overseeing two public health degree programs. Prior to teaching, he was the Director of Health Care Policy for the Iowa Hospital Association, ran a tobacco quitline at the state health department, and started his public health career doing infectious disease education and policy at a local health department in California. He received his Doctor of Health Education from the University of Northern Iowa and a Master of Public Health from the University of Iowa.



Alyssa N. Wilson, PhD, BCBA-D, LBA (MO), ICGC-I, is an Associate Professor of Psychology at California State University, Fresno. She received her PhD in Rehabilitation with an emphasis in Behavior Analysis and Therapy from Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. She is a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst-Doctoral (BCBA-D), a Licensed Behavior Analyst in the state of Missouri, and a Level I Internationally Certified Gambling Counselor. She is the co-author of *The Gambling Disorder Treatment Handbook: A Guide for Mental Health Professionals* and chapter in the *Social Work Desk Reference v 4* on Gambling Disorders. She is also the co-author of *Acceptance and Commitment Therapy for Gambling Disorders*, a guide for clinicians.

YOUTH HAVE THE POWER.COM



PRESENTERS



Glenn Yamagata, MPhil, has six years of experience designing and improving problem gambling service programs, which allows him to bring a deep understanding of the risks and behavioral dynamics associated with emerging financial technologies, including the cryptocurrency ecosystem. His background in economics and technology provides a strong foundation for discussing this rapidly evolving landscape. He has presented on these and related topics, offering insights into how mental health professionals and policymakers can address the gambling-related risks associated with these innovations.



Paulina Zyskowski, MPH, has a varied background in prevention education with experience in community outreach, writing community health assessments, collecting qualitative data, and collaborating with community leaders. She worked in the Department of Diversity and Inclusion in the RWJ Barnabas Hospital system, in state agencies developing education materials, and with the YMCA building equitable youth services. She earned her Master's in Public Health at Montclair University with a concentration in Community Health Education before moving to Washington to join ECPG in 2024. Paulina has a vested interest in climate change justice and the connections between environmental and public health.

SAVE-THE-DATE! Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling Summer Quarterly Training

Spokane, WA – June 10-12, 2025

Two training options available:

- **Gambling Counselor Core Training**
- **Advanced Gambling Counselor Skill-Development Workshop**



evergreencpg.org/training



YOUTH HAVE THE POWER

A NEW YOUTH PROBLEM GAMBLING PREVENTION PROGRAM



LEARN. EARN. HAVE FUN.

An online problem gambling curriculum for ages 9-17+ with fun challenges that foster community engagement and personal growth

YOUTHAVETHEPOWER.ORG



AWARENESS // CULTURE AND COMMUNITY

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Social justice is a Public Health issue that compels us to eliminate inequities based on race, gender, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age, or disability. Our field is familiar with the inequities and barriers built by stigma and fear. Public health requires the ability to provide even the most basic of services without stigma; without discrimination; without humiliation; without marginalization; without racism.

The experience, insights, and knowledge shared by Community Advisory Committees are vital to helping ECPG offer and enhance programs that meet the needs of diverse communities we serve throughout Washington State.

JOIN A COMMITTEE

Applications are accepted at any time whether or not there are current openings on any committees. Your application will be kept on file for a minimum of one year for consideration.

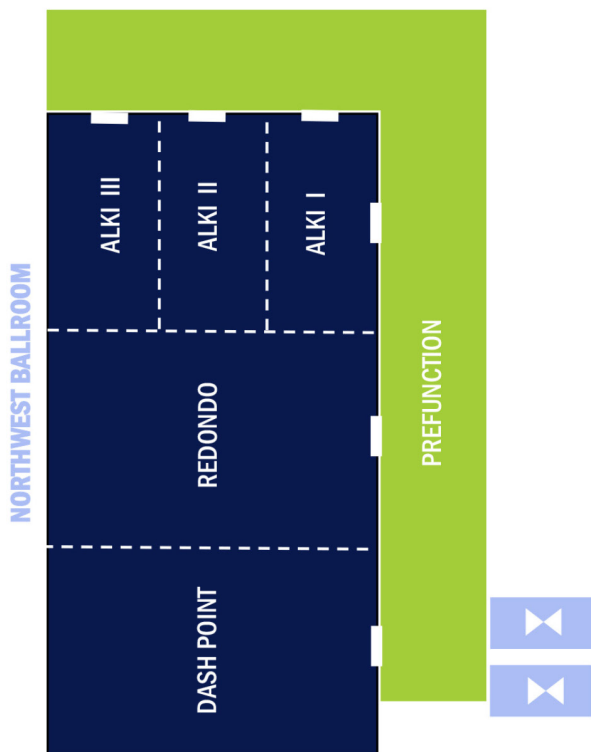
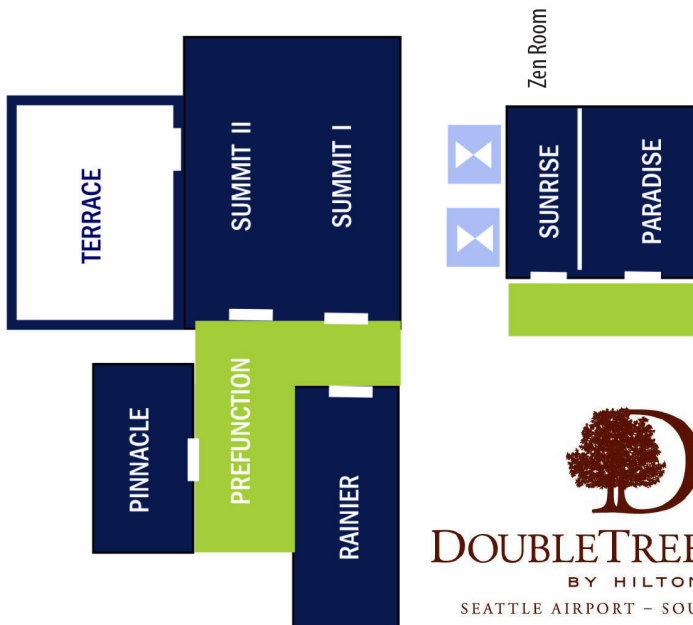
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Black
- Faith-Based
- Healthcare
- Latinx
- LGBTQIA+
- Military/Veterans
- Native American
- Recovery Community
- Senior (60+)
- Young Adult (18-21)

Learn more about ECPG's commitment to community:
evergreencpg.org/awareness/culture-and-community/



COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEES
APPLICATION PDF







WESTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON GAMBLING AND GAMING HEALTH AWARENESS

FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

MAIN CONFERENCE SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

Wednesday, May 7

7 - 8:15 a.m.	Registration and Breakfast
8:30 - 10 a.m.	Welcome & Keynote
10 - 10:15 a.m.	Break / Exhibits
10:15 - 11:45 a.m.	Morning Breakout Sessions
Noon- 12:30 p.m.	Lunch / Announcements
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch Plenary
1:30 - 1:45 p.m.	Break / Exhibits
1:45 - 3 p.m.	Afternoon Breakout Sessions
3 - 3:15 p.m.	Break / Exhibits
3:15 - 4:30 p.m.	Afternoon Breakout Sessions

Thursday, May 8

7:30 - 8:15 a.m.	Registration and Breakfast
8:30 - 10 a.m.	Welcome & Keynote
10 - 10:30 a.m.	Break / Exhibits / Hotel Checkout
10:30 - 11:45 a.m.	Morning Breakout Sessions
Noon - 12:30 p.m.	Lunch / Announcements
12:30 - 1:45 p.m.	Lunch Plenary
1:45 - 2 p.m.	Break / Exhibits
2-3:30 p.m.	Afternoon Breakout Sessions

