

2016 Ohio Problem Gambling Conference Promotes "Community Readiness"



Photos courtesy of OhioMHAS

Roughly 200 Ohio professionals came together to learn and network at the 2016 Ohio Problem Gambling Conference. Held March 3-4 in Columbus and coinciding with the national observance of Problem Gambling Awareness Month, the event kicked off with a welcome from Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services Director Tracy Plouck, who read from Governor Kasich's proclamation of March as Ohio's Problem Gambling Awareness Month. Executive Director Matthew Schuler of the Ohio Casino Control Commission and Commissioner Angela Mingo of the Ohio Lottery Commission also gave remarks.

The conference theme of "Community Readiness" provided a framework for those in attendance. Highlights included a rousing opening keynote on brain science by Frank J. Kros, MSW, JD, who spoke about cortisol's affect on the brain and its impact on an individual's behavior. On day two, Julie Hynes, CPS, MA, RD, explored the world of Daily Fantasy Sports, how it connects with gambling and issues related to this fast-growing industry.

Participants also enjoyed special presentations given by individuals and family members who have been personally impacted by gambling addiction and a question and answer session led by guests from the gambling industry. The industry panelists shared their practices related to training of casino, racino and Lottery staff, and explained how they watch for potential problems among patrons and help make connections for care when needed.

One participant who emailed after the event described the conference as, "Truly one of the best I have attended in 30+ years."

Visit <https://www.drugfreeactionalliance.org/gambling-conference> to view/print available handouts from the conference.



BE THE 95% CAMPAIGN WEBSITE WINS DESIGN AWARD

The Origo agency recently won a Silver ADDY award in the Responsive Design Web Category for the “Be the 95%” campaign website. Origo developed the “Be the 95%” campaign and website through a partnership with Ohio for Responsible Gambling to drive families, professionals, and other state groups to resources available to educate and assist with problem gambling prevention and treatment.

Through creative and fun, interactive web features, the site encourages users to:

- Take a quiz, gauging their gambling behaviors and direct them to important resources.
- Access helpful resources, videos, and tips to promote responsible gambling and prevent risky behaviors.
- Promote helpline information and other resources to prevent/treat problem gambling.

The campaign is helping promote positive behavioral change across Ohio.

Origo's work was chosen from a pool of nearly 500 entries at the annual 2015 American Advertising Awards (the ADDYs). AAF Columbus is the local affiliate of the National American Advertising Federation and is one of the most influential and prestigious creative organizations in Central Ohio.

Be the 95% Campaign Available for Community Outreach

Looking for a public health marketing approach to prevention of problem gambling in your community? Check out the Be the 95% campaign at www.the95percent.org or on Facebook or Twitter.

Ohio's Gambling Survey showed that 95% of adults who gamble, gamble responsibly. This campaign asks Ohioans to be a part of the 95%, with a short quiz, tips and tools to help people who gamble, experience gambling as a fun, social, and responsible activity.

The website contains a Community Toolkit with posters, print ads, radio spots, television/theater ads, billboards, web banners, digital ads and social media posts – ALL can be localized for a community board or service agency. The Toolkit password is “95percent.”

If you have questions or would like a presentation on the campaign, contact OhioMHAS Problem Gambling Bureau Chief Stacey Frohnapfel-Hasson at 614-644-8456 or Stacey.frohnapfel@mha.ohio.gov.

Outside Groups, States Express Interest in 'Be the 95%' Campaign

The campaign for 'Be the 95%' is developing interest from other states and countries, including California, Kentucky, Maine, and New Jersey. Inquiries have also come from a youth group in South Africa and from London, England. National presentations highlighting the campaign have been given via webinar to the Association of Problem Gambling State Administrators and are up-coming at the California Spotlight Youth Festival in June and the National Council on Problem Gambling National Conference in July.



30th National Conference on Problem Gambling
30 Years: Proud of Our Past, Planning Our Future
Tarrytown, NY July 13-16, 2016

Upcoming Training Opportunities

Problem gambling trainings are offered throughout the year at locations across Ohio. Social workers, counselors and other mental health/addictions professionals are encouraged to attend.

Advanced Disordered Gambling Training - Gambling and Cultural

Competency: This session will explore gambling behaviors, perceptions and methods of treatment for different cultures. *12 CEUs and RCHs.*

Dates: April 7 in Cleveland; April 8 in Columbus

Advanced Disordered Gambling Training - Gambling as a Co-Occurring

Disorder: This session will explore gambling as a co-occurring disorder and look at ways to treat gambling along with other diagnoses. *12 CEUs and RCHs.*

Dates: May 5 in Cleveland; May 6 in Columbus

Contact Michael Buzzelli at mbuzzelli@recres.org or (216) 431-4131 ext. 2612 for more information on trainings.

Additional information and registration links can be found at www.recres.org/GamblingCEUs.

Gambling Supervision Conference Calls: These monthly supervision calls with Dr. Heather Chapman are open to licensed social workers, counselors, chemical dependency counselors (who have or are working toward the gambling endorsement), psychologists and psychiatrists in Ohio. Participants must have a minimum of 24 hours of gambling specific education.

Calls take place from 12-1:30 pm each month. Registration is required. For more information and a list of upcoming conference calls, visit www.recres.org/GamblingSupervisionCalls

Smart Bet Training: Drug Free Action Alliance (DFAA) is offering training on the Smart Bet curriculum at four locations across Ohio. Smart Bet is designed to help young adults acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to make healthy choices about whether, when and how much to gamble. The materials can be stand-alone or integrated into other training lessons or activities. Attendees will leave the day fully equipped to run the Smart Bet program in their own communities.

For more information and to register, visit drugfreeactionalliance.org/smart-bet

TREATMENT PROVIDERS URGED TO REGISTER WITH HELPLINE

To make sure the Helpline has the most updated information available, professionals and certified treatment agencies that are qualified to treat clients with a gambling diagnosis – co-occurring or standalone – should be adding relevant service information to the Helpline database. Contact Scott Anderson from OhioMHAS at scott.anderson@mha.ohio.gov or 614-466-8562 to request inclusion or update information in the Helpline database.

Problem Gambling Helpline

4th Quarter Statistics (Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2015)

Total Calls to Helpline

1,399

Month

October: 472

November: 410

December: 517

Gender

Men: 506

Women: 524

Unknown: 369

Age of Person In Need

1-17: 1

18-24: 59

25-34: 118

35-44: 83

45-54: 115

55 and older: 220

unknown: 803

Responsible Gambling Quarterly is produced by Ohio for Responsible Gambling (ORG). ORG is a collaborative effort among four state agencies to promote responsible gambling in Ohio and provide resources to those seeking help with a gambling problem.



Laura P. Clemens
Problem Gambling Coordinator
Ohio Casino Control Commission
(614) 387-5848
laura.clemens@casinocontrol.ohio.gov



Stacey Frohnafel-Hasson, MPA
Chief, Problem Gambling Services
Ohio Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services
(614) 644-8456
stacey.frohnafel@mha.ohio.gov



Karen Russo
Community Outreach & Problem Gambling Coordinator
Ohio Lottery Commission
(216) 774-5747
karen.russo@lottery.ohio.gov



William Crawford
Executive Director
Ohio State Racing Commission
(614) 466-2757
bill.crawford@rc.state.oh.us