REGISTER NOW!

OHIO PROBLEM GAMBLING CONFERENCE — MARCH 5-6, 2015

The Ohio Problem Gambling Conference 2015 — Growing Awareness, Building Capacity — has been set for March 5-6, 2015, at the Crowne Plaza Columbus. Hosted by OhioMHAS and sponsored by Ohio for Responsible Gambling, the 1.5 day event will feature Dr. Jeffrey Derevensky of McGill University, who is an expert in prevention and treatment of problem gambling among adolescents. The second day highlight will be Dr. Lori Rugle, director of Maryland’s Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling, who will present on Gambling and SBIRT and Recovery Promotion. The afternoon of the second day will offer a three-hour session on ethics with a focus on problem gambling treatment – especially useful for the new Ohio Chemical Dependency Professionals Board Gambling Endorsement. A variety of educational seminars will round out both days, including a Diversity Panel on March 5. Seating is limited, so register now!


March is Problem Gambling Awareness Month

Ohio for Responsible Gambling is pleased to join with the National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG) and other statewide partners to raise public awareness about problem gambling throughout the month of March. The goal of Problem Gambling Awareness Month is to educate the general public and health care professionals about the warning signs of problem gambling and promote the availability of help and hope both locally and nationally. Most adults gamble or know someone who gambles, and who could benefit from programs to prevent gambling addiction. Many individuals suffer in silence do so because they don’t know why they developed a problem, what gambling addiction is or where to get help. Learn the signs of problem gambling and know that help is available.

What do you want your community to know about gambling? Is the focus on safe gambling, awareness of problem gambling and/or what community or state resources are available to help individuals or families affected by the consequences of problem gambling? Click here for an easy-to-use guide to making the most of PG Awareness Month, and for a customizable op/ed, press release, blog or news article.
Ohio Undertakes State System Review for Gambling Services

About 40 of Ohio’s behavioral health professionals, who also specialize in the field of problem gambling, convened in Columbus on December 16 to take part in a Problem Gambling System Improvement Forum. The Forum was part of a larger State System Review being undertaken by OhioMHAS to determine what areas of a problem gambling continuum of care are on the right track and where system improvement efforts should be focused. The department has contracted with Jeffrey Marotta, Ph.D., an expert in state and international problem gambling service systems, to assist in Ohio’s analysis. A final report will be available by June 30, 2015.

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.

Treating the Disordered Gambler (Stage 2): This two-day training will assist clinicians in their treatment of gamblers. Please note that completion of Foundations in Disordered Gambling or 12 hours of gambling counseling are prerequisites for this training, which will be conducted by Dr. Heather Chapman, Ph.D., NCGCII, BACC, director of the Gambling Treatment Program and deputy director of the Veterans Addiction Recovery Program at the Louis Stokes Cleveland Veterans Administration Medical Center. Dates: Feb. 5-6 in Bowling Green and April 16-17 in Cincinnati.

Advanced Disordered Gambling Training: This two-day session focuses on the Pathways Model, which helps professionals identify the appropriate treatment strategies for individuals with a gambling disorder. The training will be led by Lia Nower, J.D., Ph.D., a Professor and Director of the Center for Gambling Studies at Rutgers University. Dates: May 26-27 in Cleveland and May 28-29 in Columbus.

Contact Jen Clegg at jccbennett@recres.org or (216) 431-4131 ext. 1321 for more information.

Additional information on treatment trainings can be found at www.recres.org/GamblingCEUs.

Gambling Disorder Endorsement and Expansion of Prevention Scope

After years of committed work by the behavioral health field, state leaders and the Ohio General Assembly, the passage of HB 483 last year included a provision that authorizes the Ohio Chemical Dependency Professionals Board (OCDPB) to create and offer a Gambling Disorder Endorsement for qualified professionals. The OCDPB is currently finalizing administrative requirements to make the changes effective as of March 1, 2015.

The endorsement will be available for individuals who hold an active LCDC II, LCDC III, LICDC or LICDC-CS license. Additional requirements for this new endorsement will include:

- Completion of 30 hours of gambling disorder training
- Completion of 100 hours of gambling disorder direct clinical experience prior to the first renewal of the endorsement
- Completion of six hours of gambling disorder training at each renewal

Requirements for gambling disorder training and continuing education for the endorsement will align with the education that has been offered through OhioMHAS and Recovery Resources over the last four years and at the annual conference.

HB 483 also expanded the scope of practice for prevention professionals from “alcohol and other drug prevention services” to “prevention services.” This will allow prevention professionals to provide prevention services as they relate to gambling disorder and other behavioral health disorders. The OCDPB is currently aligning its administrative rules to account for the change for prevention specialists.