

Problem Gambling Services Critical Program Updates ***October 2011***

Welcome Nicole Corbin to Addictions & Mental Health Division! (AMH)

Program Manager's Update

This is my first update as the Program Manager for Problem Gambling Services here at AMH. I am delighted to have this chance to communicate with a group of people who care deeply about problem gambling treatment and prevention.

I already know quite a few of you, as I have been a part of Oregon's problem gambling services for the past three and a half years working at Cascadia in Multnomah and Clackamas counties. For those of you I have not yet met, let me tell you a bit about myself:

I've worked in the addictions and mental health world for 17 years now. During that time, I've had the opportunity to work with adults, children, and families. I have worked in residential, school and outpatient treatment settings, and I've worked with people struggling with acute and chronic mental health issues, addiction, poverty and trauma. One of the things that I love about the problem gambling field is that we really see a meld of all these different issues in our work. We treat clients who have mental health or chemical dependency issues alongside their compulsive gambling. We get to work with families. We have the chance to do prevention in schools and communities. We are very privileged in this way.

I love this work, and I'm very passionate about it. I hope to share that passion with you.. I believe that we can continue to do excellent work, and can improve and expand our services in the future.

I look forward to getting to know those of you in our state that I haven't yet met. I'll be contacting all our programs in the coming months to talk further about what is and is not working, and to get to know all our partners.

I encourage you to contact me with any questions or concerns. I can be reached at:

Nicole Corbin

Email: nicole.corbin-lawson@state.or.us

Phone: 503-945-6722

Fax: 503-378-8467

On a more personal note, I'm an avid reader, and I'm always running out of books. If you have any good reading suggestions, I'd love to hear those, too!

Peer Delivered Services

Health care systems transformation continues to move forward rapidly in Oregon. As you may be aware, a major focus of this evolution is designed to emphasize prevention and provide options for non-traditional modalities of care. Part of the legislation that created the structure for these changes mandates that services be available from Peer Wellness Specialists. Historically, most peer services in the problem gambling world have been delivered in the context of Gambler's Anonymous. This legislation creates an opportunity and mandate to expand peer delivered services to other venues, including problem gambling treatment. What ideas do you have of ways that these peers could support people in achieving and living a recovery lifestyle, free of problem gambling? Would they be Recovery Mentors, similar to those working in other addiction fields? Coaches? What sort of roles will peer specialists fill, and what training and support will they need in order to be a successful part of our array of services? We would welcome any ideas and feedback that you have.

2012 Problem Gambling Awareness Calendars are on their way!!

2012 Problem Gambling Awareness Calendars have just been sent to the designated prevention coordinator for each county, so if you are a treatment provider and want calendars please connect with your problem gambling prevention person (if you don't know who that is email us and we'll let you know).

Many of you have said that disseminating the calendars in your local area has turned out to be a great way to open a conversation and increase awareness about problem gambling-the youth art work and messages are universally appealing. Some of you mail them out, some of you hand deliver them, some of you give them out at large gatherings-however you choose to do it, please get them out by mid December at the latest!

We will send out an initial allotment and if you need more just ask--you can email Greta Coe greta.l.coe@state.or.us.

Online PG Prevention "101"

We will soon launch an online version of the problem gambling prevention "101" webinar that some of you have participated in as you have joined the ranks of problem gambling preventionists. The course, which will cover the basics of problem gambling and prevention of same, will take about an hour and a half and will be available whenever someone wants or needs to take it. CEUs will also be provided....more to come when the course is completed!

PG Prevention Annual Report Highlights

In the next issue of this newsletter, we will highlight some of your accomplishments in problem gambling prevention this past year...stay tuned-you've done some great work!

Problem Gambling Services Staff		Helpline website: 1877mylimit.org	
DHS Problem Gambling Services web site: http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/addiction/gambling.shtml			
Contact	Title	Phone	Email
Nicole Corbin	Problem Gambling Services Manager	503-945-6722	nicole.corbin-lawson@state.or.us
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Jackie Fabrick	Gambling Treatment Specialist	503-945-7815	jackie.fabrick@state.or.us
Greta Coe	Resource Specialist	503-945-6187	greta.l.coe@state.or.us
Patricia Alderson	Administrative Support	503-945-9710	patricia.alderon@state.or.us

Staff changes? Please notify **Patricia** ASAP so we can keep our records current!
patricia.alderon@state.or.us or **503-945-9710**