

## RHODE ISLAND COUNCIL ON PROBLEM GAMBLING



April 11, 2019

Dear RI College Counseling Directors,

By way of introduction, I am the Rhode Island Lottery Problem Gambling Program Manager; and I have overall responsibility for the Lottery's Problem Gambling Program, including the Treatment Program. I am also an Executive Officer of the Rhode Island Council on Problem Gambling.

The Rhode Island Council on Problem Gambling (RICPG) is a voluntary, non-profit organization dedicated to assisting problem gamblers and their families by promoting awareness, education, research, and treatment for persons with gambling disorders.

It is estimated that one in ten Rhode Islanders experience gambling-related problems, which can range from anxiety and depression to financial loss, divorce, domestic violence, and even suicide. The RICPG does not take a position for or against legalized gambling but has and will continue to serve as the State advocate for programs and services to assist all those affected by problem gambling, improve health and wellness by reducing the personal, social, and economic costs of problem gambling, and educate Rhode Islanders about problem gambling and related issues.

Forty percent (40%) of people with a gambling problem started gambling before the age of seventeen (17) (NCPG). With the onset of sports betting and the ability to "game" on line, the Council would like to survey Colleges and Universities in Rhode Island to obtain a baseline number of students who actively participate in some form of gambling or gaming.

The results of that survey would be published, however, individual schools will not be identified. We would provide each school with their own data, while offering training and education to Resident Assistants and Counseling Center staff, free of charge.

We would like to include all eleven institutions of Higher Education in the survey. We are looking to begin sometime in the fall.

Please call me with any questions,

Nancy A Murray, CAGS, LCDP, ICOGS

Problem Gambling Program Manager

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Example Survey:

| DO YOU  | ALWAYS | MOST OF THE TIME | SOMETIMES | RARELY | NEVER |
|---|--------|------------------|-----------|--------|-------|
| Play dice games   |        |                  |           |        |       |
| Play the stock Market   |        |                  |           |        |       |
| Play games of skill for money ( golf, pool)                                       |        |                  |           |        |       |
| Play on line daily fantasy sports for money                                       |        |                  |           |        |       |
| Lose time from school due to gambling   |        |                  |           |        |       |
| Play cards for money  |        |                  |           |        |       |
| Gamble longer than you had intended ( lost track of time)                         |        |                  |           |        |       |
| Bet on sports   |        |                  |           |        |       |
| Feel remorse about your gambling  |        |                  |           |        |       |
| Borrow money to gamble  |        |                  |           |        |       |
| Sell belongings to gamble   |        |                  |           |        |       |
| Commit or considered committing a crime to finance gambling                       |        |                  |           |        |       |
| Lose sleep because of gambling  |        |                  |           |        |       |
| Gamble to escape worry or loneliness  |        |                  |           |        |       |
| Consider self destruction or suicide regarding your gambling                      |        |                  |           |        |       |
| Lie about your gambling   |        |                  |           |        |       |
| Has anyone expressed concern about the amount of time or money you spend gambling |        |                  |           |        |       |
| Have your grades suffered due to gambling   |        |                  |           |        |       |
| Buy super bowl squares  |        |                  |           |        |       |
| Play a March Madness grid for money   |        |                  |           |        |       |

Gender \_\_\_\_\_

Age \_\_\_\_\_

Race/ Ethnicity \_\_\_\_\_

Year in school \_\_\_\_\_