



We understand the problem. We can help.

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COUNCIL CELEBRATES 25 YEARS & 25 PEOPLE *Who Made a Difference*

THE MASSACHUSETTS
COUNCIL ON
COMPULSIVE GAMBLING



*Celebrating 25 years of
compassion, understanding
and solutions*

1983 - 2008

THE FOLLOWING 25 INDIVIDUALS WERE HONORED AT THE EVENT:

*More on these honorees
can be found at
masscompulsivegambling.org*

- Michael Botticelli
- State Treasurer Timothy Cahill
- Nancy Cummings
- State Auditor Joseph DeNucci
- Kevin Donoghue
- Dot Duda
- Richard Earle
- Marilyn Feinberg
- Bob Gaudet
- Donna Gittens
- Scott Harshbarger
- Rodney Hoffman
- James Hudson
- Nick Irvine
- John Kodis
- Paul Kollios
- Martin Meehan
- Jesse Mellor
- David Mulligan
- Shannon O'Brien
- Thomas P. O'Neill, III
- Richard Rogers
- Howard Shaffer
- Ed Talbot
- Eric Turner

On Monday, September 22, 2008, the Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling celebrated 25 years of offering services to people struggling with gambling disorders with a Breakfast Gala & Awards Celebration. The event, held at the Boston Harbor Hotel in downtown Boston, Massachusetts, was attended by close to 250 guests.

During the event, the Council honored 25 individuals who made a positive impact on problem gamblers and their families. The honorees were joined by family, friends and co-workers who added to the upbeat and celebratory feel of the day. When asked to comment on his work and award, Richard Earle stated, "I am totally committed to the Council and their goals. Their work is so important and it is a pleasure to work with the staff. The Gala breakfast was a very appropriate tribute to the difference they make, and I was very honored to be recognized as one of 25 who contributed to that difference."

Individuals, organizational representatives and state officials alike joined efforts to make the Gala a success. Governor Deval L. Patrick issued a citation in recognition of the Council's 25th anniversary and in appreciation of the Council's commitment to raising awareness of the disorder. The Massachusetts State Senate, the Massachusetts House of Representatives, and the Boston City Council issued similar resolutions in celebration of the Council's milestone.

David D'Alessandro, former Chairman and CEO of John Hancock Financial Services, was the keynote speaker. Mr. D'Alessandro shared his own personal experience as the son of a compulsive gambler. He explained how his father, a brilliant man who spoke multiple languages and was a professor, became addicted to gambling and how this devastated his family. D'Alessandro described some incidents at which he was present when his father was physically threatened because of gambling debts and the impact this, and the secrecy related to these incidents, had on him as a child.



Jim Hudson, one of the Council's founders, was recognized as an honoree at the Gala



Susan Wornick entertained the guests as moderator of the event



Keynote speaker, David D'Alessandro's heartfelt address spoke to audience members about the impact problem gambling has on families



Former State Treasurer, Shannon O'Brien, was honored at the Gala. She was joined by her husband, Emmett Hayes



Young Sean didn't want to miss out on congratulating his grandpa, Ed Talbot, at the breakfast

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While overcoming these traumatic experiences to become a successful executive, he indicated that it was at significant personal cost. Mr. D'Alessandro cautioned gambling industry professionals and policy makers in the audience about the dangers of expanding gambling, offering his opinion that the social costs were more than Massachusetts residents could afford.

Donald E. Rodman, President of Rodman Ford, Lincoln-Mercury, was the Honorary Chair of the event. He added his support because of his belief in the importance of raising awareness of problem gambling and offered strategic advice in the planning of the event. Susan Wornick, co-anchor of WCVB-TV's Midday newscast, who served as the emcee and moderated the presentation of the awards, joined Mr. Rodman in leading the event. Chosen for her understanding of addiction and her compassionate and thorough coverage of problem gambling on air in years past, Wornick brought warmth, humor and wisdom to the festivities.

In addition the Council developed a 25th anniversary video, which aired at the Gala. The powerful 12-minute film featured various people, including addictions professionals, problem gambling researchers, and people in recovery, all explaining the history of compulsive gambling, and the importance of the Council's work. During the 2008 calendar year, all of the Council's events adopted the 25th anniversary theme and featured examples of the past, present and future of problem gambling services.

According to Council Executive Director, Kathleen M. Scanlan, "It was a wonderful celebration of the Council's impact over 25 years, and a great opportunity to recognize Tom Cumming's vision and efforts in founding the Council. We are so very grateful to all who participated. Many attendees commented that it was an event that Tom would have loved!" In addition, the Council recognized Scanlan's 21 years of service as a leader in Massachusetts' efforts to reduce gambling problems.

After the Gala, the Council held an open house at its office on High Street. Guests enjoyed learning about the Council's programs and FY08 accomplishments, while visiting with staff and board members.

Thank you! Support for the 25th Anniversary Celebration was generously provided by the following sponsors:

PLATINUM

Mohegan Sun

GOLD

The Office of Massachusetts State Treasurer Timothy P. Cahill and the Massachusetts State Lottery Commission

Foxwoods Resort Casino

SILVER

Rodman Ford, Lincoln-Mercury

John Hancock Financial Services

BRONZE

Harvard Pilgrim Health Care

SUPPORTING

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

Suffolk Downs Racetrack

HIGHLIGHTING TREATMENT: STEPPINGSTONE, INC.



Gretchen Jenkins is the director of Steppingstone, Inc's problem gambling treatment program

Steppingstone, Inc. staff members Gretchen Jenkins, Maureen Roy and Ed Talbot are no strangers to problem gambling. Combined they have decades worth of experience with addiction which make them a strong team to treat individuals and family members alike struggling with gambling disorders.

Becoming a problem gambling treatment facility for the Commonwealth a few years ago, Steppingstone, Inc., located on N. Main Street in Fall River, Massachusetts, is an agency that is committed to treating

the whole person and not just the presenting problem. Jenkins, the Outpatient Program Director, has built a strong outpatient program, but has also encouraged the agency's residential staff and community's other social service staff to screen and refer clients who may be risking their recovery due to gambling.

Whether treating the individual coming to treatment with a gambling disorder as their main concern or one struggling with gambling as a symptom related to other problems, the outpatient staff utilize Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT). They find that CBT, an evidence-based practice, helps gambling clients with the education, behavior modification and relapse prevention needed to live a healthier life.

For more information on Steppingstone, Inc's program, please contact the Council Helpline at 800.426.1234 or call Gretchen Jenkins at 508.674.2788, ext. 120 (www.steppingstoneinc.org)

COUNCIL WELCOMES NEW STAFF MEMBERS

This summer the Council welcomed three new staff members:



Ryan J. Martin, PhD, Thomas N. Cummings Research Fellow

Together with the Institute for Research on Pathological Gambling and Related Disorders at the Division on Addictions, Cambridge Health Alliance, a teaching affiliate of Harvard Medical School (the DOA), the Council has appointed Ryan as the first Thomas N. Cummings Research Fellow. Ryan recently earned his PhD in Health Education and Promotion at the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa. At the University, Ryan was both an Instructor and a Graduate Research Assistant. Prior to his time at the University of Alabama, he earned his MS in Health Policy and Administration from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana.



Flora Peters, Office Manager

Flora comes to the Council from Baltimore, MD. She brings with her five years of administrative support expertise, working in widely diverse settings. From offering assistance at the Executive Office of the Maryland Department of the Environment, to supporting the instruments division at Baltimore's Space Telescope Science Institute, Flora's experience and competent handling of all aspects of office set up, management, and customer service is varied and extensive.



Haner Hernandez, PhD, CADACII, LADCI, Assistant Director of Prevention and Programs

Prior to his new appointment, Haner was a Consultant for the Council. His work included tailoring the Council's curriculum for people who provide addictions education and services to Latino-based communities and developing a Spanish-language problem gambling media campaign. He also helped the Council to expand Helpline services by recruiting Spanish-speaking specialists. Haner, who has more than 20 years of experience working in the addictions field, recently earned his PhD from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst's School of Public Health.

FALL 2008/WINTER 2009 PROBLEM GAMBLING TRAININGS CALENDAR: Understanding, Assessing & Treating Gambling Disorders

The Council is offering several one-day trainings and online training opportunities this fall and winter. Local, national and international audiences are welcome and encouraged to participate.

ONE-DAY PROBLEM GAMBLING TRAININGS

Trainings will occur from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Breakfast, lunch and materials will be provided.

Meeting the Needs of Diverse Communities: Asian & Latino Outreach Efforts and Treatment Resources

The morning and afternoon seminars will provide culturally nuanced clinical information for screening, assessing, referring and for treating Asian and Latino problem gambling clients with culturally and linguistically appropriate resources. Earn 7.5 CEUs.

Tuesday, December 9, 2008
The Non Profit Center, Boston

TRAINING FACULTY:

Chien-Chi Huang, MS, is the Asian Community Program Specialist at the Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling.

Haner Hernandez, PhD, CADACII, LADCI is the Assistant Director of Prevention and Programs at the Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling.

The Next Steps in Treating Gambling Disorders: Identifying Comorbidity & Countertransference Issues and Understanding Family Therapy and Self-Help Resources

A one-day workshop to explore options for treatment of problem gamblers with co-morbid disorders. Family therapy, countertransference and self-help resources will also be addressed. Earn 7.5 CEUs.

Thursday, February 5, 2009
Plymouth Church, Framingham

TRAINING FACULTY:

Rob Whitman-Raymond, LICSW, CAS, is a therapist, consultant and supervisor with a private practice in Pawtucket, RI. He specializes in the treatment of compulsive gamblers.

ONLINE PROBLEM GAMBLING COURSES

Adolescent/College Student Gambling: Identifying and Managing Risk

This mid-level online course will focus on gambling in the adolescent (i.e. high school) and college student populations. The content is targeted toward anyone with an interest in student gambling including resident advisors, health educators, athletic coaches, and administrative staff. The course will present student-specific information on the prevalence of gambling, signs and consequences of problem gambling, ideas for minimizing problems, and treatment and self-help options. Participants will also have the opportunity to assess their institution's gambling policies. CEUs pending.

Beginning January

TRAINING FACULTY:

Ryan J. Martin, PhD

Thomas N. Cummings Research Fellow at the Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling in collaboration with the Institute for Research on Pathological Gambling and Related Disorders at the Division on Addictions, Cambridge Health Alliance, an affiliate of Harvard Medical School.

Developing a Culturally-Conscious Approach to Prevention and Treatment of Problem Gambling in the Latino Community

This mid-level course will offer community providers, prevention practitioners and treatment professionals an opportunity to form a deeper understanding of the key cultural characteristics of the Latino community. Coursework will explore how the foundational values that create community interact with gambling behaviors, and how they pose challenges to prevention and treatment. Participants will also explore approaches to prevention and treatment that support, and are supported by, the cultural values of the Latino community. CEUs pending

Beginning February

TRAINING FACULTY:

Haner Hernandez, PhD, CADACII, LADCI Assistant Director of Prevention and Programs at the Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling.

Recognizing and Managing Countertransference in Problem Gambling Clinical Work

This advanced-level online course is an intensive study of countertransference and how it impacts clinical judgment and treatment. Participants will engage in online discussions after reading relevant scholarly articles, explore familiar clinical concepts in the context of problem gambling and engage in interactive clinical case study reviews with the focus on individuals struggling with disordered gambling. Earn 12 CEUs.

Beginning March

TRAINING FACULTY:

Geoffrey W. Locke, MA, MSW, ABD, is a doctoral student at Smith College School for Social Work. He has a private clinical practice in Amherst, Massachusetts.

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REGISTRATION is available online at <http://masscouncilregistration.org>. To learn more about Council trainings, as well as payment information, please download the training brochure at www.masscompulsivegambling.org or contact Council Program Assistant, Peggie Milisci:

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The Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling is a private, non-profit health agency dedicated to reducing the social, financial and emotional costs of problem gambling. The Council provides prevention, information, education, advocacy, and referral services for problem gamblers, their loved ones, and the greater community.

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Massachusetts Problem Gambling Treatment Centers

Boston ASAP, Boston: 617.482.5292

Henry Lee Willis Community Center, Worcester: 508.799.2934

Lowell House, Inc., Lowell: 978.459.8656

Mt. Auburn Hospital Prevention & Recovery Center, Cambridge: 617.499.5051

Stanley Street Treatment & Resources, Inc., Fall River: 508.679.5222

Steppingstone, Inc., Fall River: 508.674.2788 ext. 120

Team Coordinating Agency, Inc., Haverhill: 978.373.1181 ext. 42

Resources

Massachusetts Council on Compulsive Gambling Helpline: 800.426.1234

Gamblers Anonymous: 213.386.8789 or Western MA: 800.266.1908

Bettors Anonymous: 978.988.1777 or 781.662.5199

Gam-Anon (family/friends): 617.338.6020

National Council on Problem Gambling Helpline: 800.522.4700

The Institute for Research on Pathological Gambling and Related Disorders at Harvard Medical School, Division on Addictions: 781.306.8600



Congratulations!

Council Program Assistant, Peggie Milisci, recently welcomed a new granddaughter, Rayna Dawn Guerrero, on August 19, 2008. Baby girl Guerrero was 6 lbs. 9 oz. and 13 inches long, and is the apple of her grandma's eye.

Winners Circle at Suffolk Downs

Pictured from left to right – Council Office Manager, Flora Peters; Thomas N. Cummings Research Fellow, Ryan J. Martin; Council Executive Director, Kathy Scanlan; Vice President of Marketing and Communications at Suffolk Downs, Christian Teja; and Council Communications Specialist, Margot Cahoon

On Saturday, August 16, 2008, the Council received a "Community Winner's Circle" award at Suffolk Downs Racetrack. Suffolk Downs recently introduced its "Community Winner's Circle" program to recognize local individuals and organizations who have dedicated themselves to worthy causes in the community. The Council was pleased to have its work to help people struggling with gambling disorders recognized by the racetrack.



Save the Date!

2009 Massachusetts Conference on Gambling Problems
Tuesday, May 12, 2009
New Location! College of the Holy Cross, Worcester

Regular updates will be available on our website masscompulsivegambling.org.
To reserve your place today, please register online at <http://masscouncilregistration.org>

COUNCIL SEEKS SPEAKERS

The Council is seeking people in recovery, and family members alike, from all areas of the state, to share their personal experiences with problem gambling. We need help from people who are willing to speak to media and/or groups to raise public awareness about how problem gambling impacts lives. Should you desire to remain anonymous, we will work with you to protect your privacy. If you are interested in participating, please contact Program Director, Marlene Warner, at the Council at 617-426-4554 / marlene@masscompulsivegambling.org.