

PROBLEM GAMBLING

NATIONAL COORDINATION SERVICE

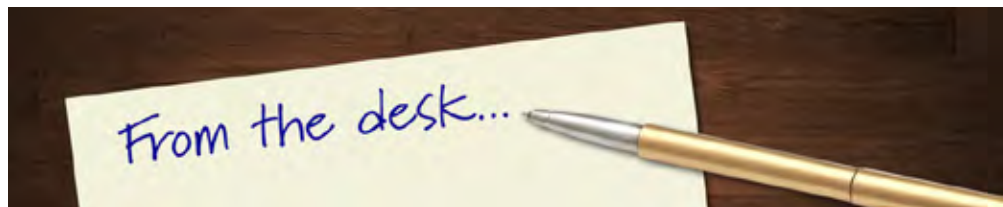


Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini
The strength is not of the individual but of the collective

Issue Twelve | October 2011

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Maria Butler, National Coordinator, Problem Gambling National Coordination Service

As always, the third quarter is a busy one and much has happened during this time. Following hard on the heels of the release of the KPMG Value for Money report earlier in the year, work has begun on the development of the Outcomes Monitoring Framework. By the time this newsletter is published the first consultative workshop will have been held, focussing on the key questions needed to move forward. The framework of 65 key outcome indicators is to enable better reporting against our 11 Ministry of Health strategic objectives. For the framework to be successful, it has to be driven by – and developed from – the experiences and knowledge of those working at the forefront of our sector.

Yet while quantitative values are vital for proving value for money – and indeed for giving clear evidence as to where and how we might report most effectively in the future – the qualitative side of our work is also important. Effective relationships across the mental health, alcohol and drug, and smoking cessation sectors were the focus of this year’s Asian Forum. ‘Working Together We can Make a Difference?’ was the theme of the forum, which examined problem gambling and co-existing problems. Taking the ‘Any Door is the Right Door’ approach to service means developing networks, relationships and structures that allow local providers to work together, utilising organisational strengths and pathways to ensure the best support for the client. Part of this work on the day included inviting police liaison and industry host responsibility workers to share their part in trying to minimise the harm from problem gambling. This integrated approach was sustained on the second day when workshops welcomed both clinical and public health staff to participate as a team, rather than keeping the two work strands separate.

The development of stronger relationships within the wider health infrastructure has also occurred recently. The Alcohol Advisory Council and the Health Sponsorship Council (HSC) merger is underway to form a new Health Promotion Crown Entity. Despite considerable changes, HSC has successfully

.....
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The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily represent those of the above parties.
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From the Desk

Continued from page 1...

rolled out the third phase of the Kiwi Lives Campaign – ‘Choice not Chance’ – in the lead up to Gamblefree Day in September. The Scribe with Me nationwide competition brought in hundreds of rap lyrics, personal stories, and songs from the kids of New Zealand - highlighting key messages about gambling harm and the importance of families and communities being part of the solution. This material showcased the talent of our youth, and their growing awareness of the harm associated with problem gambling. We have included a ‘quick pick’ of the entries in the newsletter, but this is just a tiny selection: for the regional finalists and winners, visit <http://www.choicenotchoice.org>.

Gamblefree Day as a whole was well supported throughout New Zealand, from Te Manga Puriri in the North, to Dunedin’s Ethical Funding Forum in the South. Asian Family Services (PGF) had a tremendous response to their slogan competition – 912 entries submitted, 500 people on the day, and over 80 participating organisations. Other highlights were the Waka on the Waitemata event at Okahu Bay (co-hosted by the Problem Gambling Foundation, Oasis and Hapai Te Hauora) which promoted Waka Ama, music, poi making, flax weaving, and painting as alternative activities to gambling. In local communities, and across the regions, events included sausage sizzles, press releases, presentations, distribution of leaflets, representation at Health Expos, the fabulous Poetry and Short Story competitions – and much more. All in all a wonderful effort to raise public awareness – well done!

Staff Updates...

New Interim CEO at Hapai

Hapai Te Hauora Tapui Maori Public Health would like to formally introduce Dr Nicole Coupe, their new interim Chief Executive Officer. Nicole brings with her a multitude of skills and experiences, including her previous position as the Ministry of Health Infrastructure Manager of the Public Health Group.

Additionally, Nicole’s research biography includes reports on problem gambling such as: In general practice: How big is the co-morbidity? (2006). Nicole’s expertise will support our Public Health Problem Gambling team to strengthen its effectiveness, as well as the whole of Hapai to address public health issues across the continuum. We look forward to Nicole’s leadership.



Hapai Te Hauora Tapui Maori Public Health wish Gary Brown, their previous CEO, all the best in his future endeavours.

Takitimu te waka

Aoraki te maunga

Waitaki te awa

Ko Kai Tahu ratou ko Te Atiawa, Ngati Toa, Ngati Rangitane oku iwi

Kataraina Tahana-Reese, Problem Gambling Counsellor

Ko Mataatua te waka

Ko Maunga Pohatu te maunga

Ko Mataatua te marae

Ko Ngati Rongo te hapu

Ko Tuhoe te iwi

Ko Whakatane te awa

Ko Kataraina Tahana-Reese toku ingoa

I commenced work as the new Problem Gambling Counsellor (0.5 FTE) with Taeaomanino Trust at the beginning of October. I feel very privileged to be working along side Louis Smith (Problem Gambling Co-ordinator) and Silipa Take (AOD Counsellor) who have both taken me under their wing and helped orientate me in my new role.

I come from Rotorua and have only been in the Wellington region since June. My employment background involves 19 years as an AOD Counsellor/Dual Diagnosis and Methadone Case Manager.

I am looking forward to working in the problem gambling sector and learning more about the impact that this particular issue has on our Pacific Island/Maori people throughout the motu – and to future networking with those involved at a local, regional and national level.

Staff Updates...

PGF Staff Updates

Nelson Wahanui

Nelson Wahanui has recently joined the Northern Region Public Health Team as a Health Promoter. He comes from Hapai te Hauora Tapui Maori Public Health and brings experience from the 'Like Minds Like Mine' programme. As a solo father of three kids he finds that "one law for all" hardly works, and that kids in the backseat are more distracting than any cell phone. Nelson also DJs as a part-time hobby, playing for the 30+ crowd. He wants the All Blacks to win the World Cup and would like to see a change in policy for safer gambling!

Bridgitte Thornley

I am very pleased to join the team at PGF as the Southern region Practice Leader. I began studying and working in the addictions field around 20 years ago, in Sydney, where I worked with street kids and also completed a postgraduate diploma of Clinical Drug Dependence. I then returned to Aotearoa where I was employed as a primary counsellor at Queen Mary Hospital. Following this, I joined the team at Oasis Centre for Problem Gambling, where I have clocked up around 6 years experience over two employment periods. At the same time I have been studying towards a post-graduate diploma in Social Work, and am due to graduate in December.

My philosophy of work combines a strong addiction focus with social justice and critical social work theories, including anti-oppressive, structuralist and feminist perspectives. I also have a particular interest in Narrative Therapy, group work, and working with whanau and women.

Denise Ramsay

Kia ora koutou,
Ko Denise Ramsay takou ingoa. I am very happy to accept the position as the new Counsellor/Health Promoter for the Palmerston North area. As my birth town I find it an honour to be able to work within a community I have been brought up in. I am originally from the Bay of Islands, a Nga Puhi descendent and very proud. I have a beautiful 18 year old son whom I love and adore, and a wonderful husband who is my heart. I have had a wonderful journey so far in life which has seen me helping people in the community – ranging from work with youth, to working for the Maori Women's Refuge and, eventually, for the Department of Corrections as a Programme Facilitator. I am really looking forward to the next part of my journey at the Problem Gambling Foundation. I come with an open mind and heart to learn; aroha and manaaki to give; kaha (strength) to overcome; and a heart for change within our communities. I look forward to meeting with others within in this field of work.

ma te wa,
Denise Ramsay



Staff Updates...

New staff member at Nga Manga Puriri

Ko Ngati Kahungunu te iwi
Ko Ngati Pahauwera te hapu
Ko Takitimu te waka
Ko Mohaka te awa
Ko Te Kahu-o-te-rangi te whare nui
Ko Rongomaiwahine te whare kai
Ko Te Hiwi Preston toku ingoa

Naku te rourou, nau te rourou ka ora ai te iwi.
“With your food basket and my basket the people will live”, how influential many minds can be to help sustain important work in helping our people survive through these perilous times of struggle, and depression.

Naa, Te Hiwi Preston
Health Promotion Advisor, Nga Manga Puriri



Update from Invercargill...

Nga Kete Matauranga Pounamu Health Promotion Team

Proud To Be Hosting The National Maori Problem Gambling Hui 26-28th October 2011, Te Rau Aroha Marae Bluff

The whanau of Nga Kete works as a tight team in walking alongside whanau and the local community to deliver a wide range of health and social services. Nga Kete was mandated by mana whenua in Sept 2000, and over ten years the service has grown to employ 48 staff and provide services Murihiku and Wakatipu-wide, enjoying strong collaborative relationships with a range of providers. Te Piringa is the Nga Kete Health Promotion Team which engages a team approach to health promotion. We recently farewelled Eru Loach and took an opportunity to reflect the gains made under his energy and commitment. Raniera Tawaroa is now overseeing problem gambling health promotion work and we are busy with organising the conference, work around the 'sinking lid' policy, multi venue self-exclusions, and youth-focused activities, amongst others. We are greatly looking forward to meeting, and making new connections with, the wider national Maori Problem Gambling providers at the upcoming conference.



From left to right: Jay Davis, Deli Ives, Leoma Tawaroa, Makuini McKerchar, Raniera Tawaroa (Kaihautu)



Diane Frances – Problem Gambling Counsellor

Registered Gestalt Psychotherapist
Alcohol & Drug Counselling Certificate.

Kia ora

I have 3 and a half years counselling intervention experience with gamblers and family members, and a career spanning 15 years working alongside whanau. I make up the other FTE aligned to our MOH problem gambling contract.

I am looking forward to meeting new faces and old friends at the conference coming up in the best slice of paradise in the country – the great and mighty Bluff. Yes, I'm a local girl!
Nau mai haere mai

Sustainability and Growth

2011 National Maori Problem Gambling Hui

Nau Mai, Haere Mai!

Te Rau Aroha Marae, Bluff

With an opening address by
Ta Tipene O'Regan

Powhiri: 11.00am Wed 26th October
Poroporoaki: 10.30am Fri 28th October



RSVP to Maria Butler

Ph: 09 639 1131

Fax: 09 624 0370

Email: maria_butler@nzf.salvationarmy.org



Workforce Development...

Working Together We Can Make a Difference

The forum; 'Working Together We Can Make a Difference' Asian Mental Health and Addiction was held on Monday 15 and Tuesday 16 August 2011 at Sorrento in the Park, One Tree Hill.

The purpose of the forum was fourfold. Firstly, to provide opportunities for Asian problem gambling service providers and staff to communicate with other agencies regarding trends and other useful sector information. Secondly, it aimed to increase the sense of collaboration and communication between different agencies working in the addiction field. Thirdly, the forum sought to inform other organisations and the Asian community about current approaches in tackling problem gambling. Lastly, a key aim was the facilitation of workforce development in the addiction sector.

On the first day of the forum more than 10 agencies attended and delivered their presentations. This included a warm welcome from Kaumatua Bob Hawke, and a keynote presentation given by Associate Professor Dr Elsie Ho from the University of Auckland. Dr Ho's session focused on issues around incorporating Asian cultural values into the counselling process, and the development of resources and training plans aligned with these values. This was followed by Dr Amritha Sobrun-Majaraj and Dr Fiona Rossen from the Centre for Asian and Ethnic Minority Health Research (CAHRE), who provided an update on New Zealand research, and insights from the 3rd Asian Pacific Problem Gambling and Addictions Conference in Hong Kong that they had recently attended. Kelly Feng (WDHB) offered a very interesting presentation on mental health problems, while Esther U (ASH) spoke about the revealing links between smoking and gambling. This was followed by a panel discussion on social marketing and the Asian communities, lead by John Wong, with Ivan Yeo from the Mental Health Foundation, and Ben Everist from the Health Sponsorship Council. Later in the afternoon Catherine Kissel offered perspectives from Community Alcohol and Drugs Services (CADS), and we were pleased to have the very dynamic Jessica Phuang (New Zealand Police, Asian Liaison) challenge and inspire us with her experience of community policing and problem gambling. In order to offer a full picture of those involved in working together to reduce the harm from problem gambling, industry representatives Amanda Ward and Rob Burrell from the Sky City Host responsibility team told us about their work. An excellent counterpoint was the touching testimony of two service users whose lives had been significantly affected by problem gambling. In conclusion, Derek Thompson from the Ministry of Health gave a welcome summary of the first day's events.

The second day consisted of two training sessions. The first was delivered by Abacus, and explored AOD and mental health co-existing problems, and the connections between them. After listening to a range of theoretical and statistical information, providers had an opportunity to role-play interviews with clients presenting with multiple co-existing conditions. The second half of the day was a training session delivered by Te Kakano, which linked our public health work in the problem gambling sector to contracted Ministry of Health service specifications. Practical scenarios were examined against the set of provider contract specifications, showing clear alignments with contracted outputs and making for an easier reporting system.

Judging by the responses from the floor, it was very clear that the forum attendees found the presentations by other agencies interesting and relevant, and appreciated the opportunity for interaction with different providers. It certainly provided opportunities for Asian problem gambling services staff and others to gain a sense of 'the big picture' around problem gambling, and its connectedness to other addictions affecting Asian communities in New Zealand.

Instead of working separately from each other, all of us from the gambling, addiction, and mental health sectors need to work together to make a difference. That is what the forum was all about.



Gamblefree Day Events From Around The Country

Gamblefree Day Slogan Competition awards event attracts large crowd

Asian Family Services

It was a fun-filled festival of colour and music at Chinatown in East Tamaki on Sunday 11 September, with over 300 people attending the awards ceremony for Asian Family Services' Gamblefree Day slogan competition. Awards were presented by Auckland Councillor, Richard Northey, for the top three slogans in English, Chinese, Korean, Thai and Vietnamese.

All entrants were required to come up with a short, snappy slogan in 20 words or less that encapsulated the meaning of Gamblefree Day, meaning of Gamblefree Day, with the winning slogans to be used for future Gamblefree Day campaigns. Over 912 entries were received which was an outstanding result and certainly exceeded expectations. Nearly 500 entries were received in Chinese, 253 in Korean, 21 in Thai, 43 in Vietnamese and over 100 in English.

The winning slogan for the English category was "Increase your odds – have a Gamblefree Day". The organisations that collected the most entries in the collection boxes also received awards, with the Chinese Positive Ageing Charitable Trust placing first and Chinatown placing second.

The crowd enjoyed some amazing entertainment at the event, including colourful lion and dragon dances, beautiful fan dancers, and other cultural performances.

John Wong from PGF said 'the competition and prize giving event would not have been possible without the support of all the dedicated volunteers, judges, staff, the outstanding performers, the organisations in the community that collected entry forms and, of course, all the people that entered the competition'.



It was humming in Hamilton...

Intermittent bad weather did not deter the enthusiasm of the community groups that celebrated Gamblefree Day in Garden Place in Hamilton. Whilst the stalls had to seek shelter from the rain, and the live band was cancelled due to the weather, the Free Lunch Street Theatre Group still gave a great performance, which attracted people to the event. The Radio Network group also provided advertisements through their Community Notices Announcements, and Community Radio 1206 provided the opportunity for a radio interview.

Several hundred people visited the stalls, which were provided by Hauora Waikato, Poverty Action Waikato and Te Runanga O Kirikiriroa Trust (2 stalls – Quit Smoking and Healthy Living). Many resources were distributed on the day, and it was particularly significant that a staff member of a local tavern picked up information for those patrons known to be problem gamblers. This gives us hope that we are perhaps making some progress in the right direction.

Poster display prompts poignant letter to paper from family

In Gisborne, PGF's Dick Johnstone organised 11 huge displays in banks, pharmacies and empty shops throughout the central business district, the two busiest suburbs and the local hospital. The seven-foot tall posters (sometimes two or three side by side) looked stunning, and received positive feedback from the community. Some were even prompted to write letters to the editor of a local newspaper; the following is an excerpt from one of them...

“Gradually we took on board the moral of the poster stories and, after trying to cut down on the pokies and racetrack gambling, decided as a group to actually stop all together”.

In the ‘Naki’ a frozen PGF staff member, Sandi Cummings, was offered a blanket and a cup of tea after enduring the wind coming straight off the snowy Taranaki mountaintop. There was an article in the local paper about Gamblefree Day, and Sandi featured in an interview with Access Radio. An information stall was also located outside Waitara New World, and many people stopped to speak with Sandi about how problem gambling has impacted on their lives. Thanks to the staff from Waitara New World for their assistance on the day.

In Wellington the PGF central region team had a street stall, with live music, in Cuba Mall between 11am and 2pm. Staff and volunteers interacted with members of the public to raise awareness about problem gambling, and volunteers provided information for the Asian community in different languages. A journalist from “The Wellingtonian”, a local newspaper, also attended the event and interviewed staff and took photos for their next edition.



Tokoroa's Story

The Salvation Army in Tokoroa, in conjunction with the Safer Community Council, took to the streets to promote the new 'Choice not Chance' campaign which looks at "Let's choose to end harmful gambling." In the last 12 months, \$7.48 million was spent on the pokie machines in the South Waikato District, which is \$485.00 for each person over the age of 18 years. Other forms of gambling include Lotto, horse racing, and sports betting. All of these disproportionately affect lower socio-economic communities, and the health and wellbeing of Maori and Pacific whanau, including children.

Free and confidential Oasis Gambling counselling and support is available in Tokoroa by phoning The Salvation Army on 07 886-9812 or the Oasis Centre Waikato Ph 07 839-6871.

Gamblefree Day Christchurch

With the focus on families, Christchurch Problem Gambling service providers held a Gamblefree event with a difference. Saturday, September the 3rd was the named day, with the theme being 'a family fun day celebrating health and wellbeing'.

The Gamblefree planning committee started preparation for the event (amongst over 3000 aftershocks) in early March, with Oasis, Problem Gambling Foundation and Pacific Island Evaluation working full steam to ensure arrangements were all in place.

Despite the threat of snow and sleet, Saturday the 3rd dawned bright and sunny and went ahead without a hitch. St Albans Baptist Church event centre was the ideal venue, and was able to cater for the approximately 160 people that attended, along with 12 stalls hosting Gambling services, the Heart foundation, and Christchurch Libraries to name but a few. The many children that came along were entertained with face painting, bubble making, books and - of course - the highlight: the arrival of our Captain Stomper who, along with our local MP, gave out the prizes for the colouring competition. With the first prize being a BIKE it created huge grins amongst the audience. Other entertainment included the Christchurch band 'Retro Sonic', who even enticed some attendees up to dance! The local high school drama students were a great hit with their acts, and all of this took place amongst the delicious smells of the sausage sizzle. Last but not least, our counselling student friends from Vision College (trained by Oasis staff) carried out surveys and offered information on problem Gambling throughout the day.

What a great day for families, but sadly it had to come to an end. This was achieved with great dignity through a Waiata sung by Jenny Apirana, and a prayer given by Peter Jamieson.

Waka on the Waitemata – Collaboration in Action

By Hapai te Hauora Tapui, PGF and Oasis

With plenty of sunshine, a crowd of over 350 Aucklanders and extensive media coverage, the Waka on the Waitemata Gamblefree Day event held at Orakei Water Sports in Okahu Bay was a huge success.

Visitors to the event enjoyed a range of activities, workshops, stalls, and competitions, and were provided with an opportunity to engage in culturally inspired alternatives to gambling such as weaving, poi making, ki-o-rahi and especially waka ama.

An integral part of the event's success was the team effort of Oasis, PGF, Orakei Water Sports and Hapai, resulting in more 'hands on deck', a larger number of networks to access resources, and a bigger audience on the day. All organisations focussed on a Maori/Pacific problem gambling kaupapa, which showed a joint commitment to



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reducing the inequalities experienced by these particular groups. This collaborative effort was a true example of the ideal partnership - **Naku te rourou nau te rourou ka ora ai te iwi** - with your basket and my basket the people will live.

In addition, strong community engagement was evident, with involvement from Waiorea (Western Springs College Maori Unit) and Ruapotaka Marae, who took on leadership roles in the project. A number of corporate groups also supported Orakei Water Sports' stance on pokie-free funding.

One of the intended outcomes for the day was to provide rangatahi with a platform to learn about problem gambling, and to consider solutions that could assist with maintaining the health of future generations. The promotion of such messages for rangatahi was ably assisted by DJ Poroufessor and Scribe, both of whom were excellent Gamblefree Day ambassadors.

Gamblefree Day messages were certainly not lost in the sound of the music and other fun activities, as key messages were posted throughout the event, including "Choice Not Chance" and "our future generations will be supported in achieving their maximum wellbeing through the minimisation of gambling harm." There was one message that everyone at the event took home...our communities need children and young people living quality lives within gamblefree whanau.

Naku te rourou nau te rourou ka ora ai te iwi

With your basket and my basket the people will live.

Te Puke Gamblefree Day

by Jeanette Arnold, Oasis Centre for Problem Gambling

Te Puke township was the focus of our Gamblefree Day sausage sizzle and discussion this year. A provincial service town some 25km from central Tauranga with a reasonably high Maori population, Te Puke is a centre for kiwifruit and avocado crops with the winter months bringing migrant and itinerant labourers to town. The town has only five gambling venues (but about 75 gambling machines) with figures from the DIA website indicating \$9000 average losses per day from about 14000 people in the community over a three month period in 2011.

In the lead up to Gamblefree Day, I visited key local social service providers and Te Puke's only secondary school, and distributed posters and other material to promote Scribewithme and to inform people about Gamblefree Day activities. Information on how to seek help from Oasis Centre staff, Te Kahui Hauora staff, or the Gambling Helpline was also provided. Posters went up in takeaway shops, medical centres and helping organisations, and a cloth bag with contact brochures and general information about gambling harm was provided to all the local Churches. In addition, Oasis and Bridge programme staff made a presentation to Te Puke Department of Corrections (Probation) staff, thereby strengthening networks with this agency. Promotional material and harm minimisation information was also distributed at a health expo at Mt Maunganui College, at the invitation of the local Primary Health Organisation. With 600 students passing through our Salvation Army-Oasis Centre display, we had the opportunity to chat with the students, who favoured the Scribe poster material.

We were pleased with the response from the local media in Tauranga, with some journalists making the effort to find stories to support our press releases. Several weeks prior to the day, an interview with Rachel, an Oasis Centre clinician, was published, and another daily newspaper subsequently ran a full front page article which incorporated gambling



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statistics we had provided. We are grateful to these journalists for their support and willingness to utilise our material. Positive relationships with the media continues to be an effective means to achieve our public health work, particularly with regard to making communities aware of gambling-related harms.

One of the wonderful things about this Gamblefree Day was the support provided by the local Te Puke Supermarket, who distributed our blue “gambling bags” to customers and promoted the Gamblefree Day at the same time. The bags were a hit with both customers and staff, so a big thanks to everyone at Te Puke New World for supporting us. We are also grateful to the help provided from Puhi and Aubrey from Te Kahui Hauora, Lena from The Salvation Army Bridge programme, and Kim, a local Te Puke woman.

It is always hard to assess the impact of our efforts at the end of projects of this nature. As always, time will tell, as we continue to work with the organisations we have formed new links with, and as more people struggling with gambling harm come forward seeking assistance.



Gamblefree Day in Hastings: Raising Awareness Of Gambling Harm Amongst The Local Community

The first day of spring brought out the sunshine in Hawkes Bay, and people gathered to the entertainment platform set up by Te Rangihaeata Oranga for Gamblefree Day. The fountain water was coloured blue to represent both the Gamblefree and ‘Random Acts of Kindness’ days. We were there to recognise and celebrate Gamblefree day by providing entertainment and free giveaways from cafes and hair and beauty salons across Hastings. The MC encouraged consumer participation by offering strength-based messages around the national ‘Choice not Chance’ campaign – and staff gave out free education resources, with opportunities for brief interventions and screening also available. There were many willing whanau participants who complemented the band’s performance with their singing voices, and showed support for the ‘Choice not Chance’ message “Working Whanau Ora in action”. There was also a favourable response towards the kaupapa from surrounding shops.



Maddison Potaka, the winner of the short story category of the Scribe competition, made herself available on Gamblefree Day, distributing ‘Choice not Chance’ resources. She was given the day off from Karamu High School by the principal who noted his pride in her achievement. Maddison wanted to have a photo taken in front of the Pokie machines, as a message to youth about the potential for families to be harmed by problem gambling. In an interview with the Leader newspaper, Maddison noted that “It’s time to stand up and choose to end harmful gambling, we have a choice, not to leave it to chance. It’s all about whanau wellbeing”. She is chuffed as whanau and friends have become involved in the campaign and given the ‘thumbs up’ on the Health Sponsorship Council website - as well as the Scribe With Me facebook site – and is happy to see gamblers take on board the message and choose to talk about their gambling with someone they trust. She noted “I don’t think people should throw their money away like that. Not when their families need it.” Nahau te Kowhiringa, Korero mai.



Maddison Potaka

**Te Rangihaeata Oranga Trust “Choosing to talk”
1st Floor Tourism House Napier. Phone 8343966**



Scribe with Rufo and the winner of the 15-18 years category in the Mapu Maia poetry competition

Young poets express their feelings in Gamblefree Day poetry competition

*I am only a little child, without a voice
Dad and Mom you've made your choice,
You choose gambling over me
You choose your happiness and Yes! you both agree
You might think that I'm young and I don't understand
Of course I do, it's just that I'm not given a chance,
I wish I can say something and tell you both how I feel
How much this gambling has affected my mind is so real,
I have been having problems sleeping because you argue a lot
And all I can hear, is that you have lost the jackpot.*

These heartfelt words were written by nine-year-old Jiroh - the winner of the English category - in the Gamblefree Day poetry competition run by Mapu Maia, the Problem Gambling Foundation's Pacific unit, and Radio Samoa.

The competition, which attracted over 146 entries, was promoted on Radio Samoa's afternoon children's programme. It was themed 'choose ME not gambling', 'Faamuamua a'u ae le o taaloga faitupe' and was open for young people aged between five and 18 years of age.

It was standing room only at a special prize giving ceremony held on Gamblefree Day at the Papatotoe Town Hall at 5.30pm, with Scribe presenting the prizes to the three place getters from each age category.



Group getting their certificates, prizes and goodie bags

SCRIBEWITHME WINNERS

National Rap Winners

Hamish Tranter (Christchurch) and Indya Lane (Wellington)

Runners up - April Hemara (Whanganui) and Brad Zimmerman (Wellington)

National Short Story Winner

Maddison Potaka (Hawke's Bay)

National Poetry Winners

Maranda Haynes (Auckland) and Kayla Collingwood (Waikato)

National Song Winners

Sepi Vave-Hawaikirangi (Auckland), Daniel Binzegger (Canterbury), Jimi Mataio (Waikato)

Regional Rap Winners

Region	Winner/s
Northland	Shy Murphy, Jordayne Tibbits
Auckland	Nick Mulvey, Joshua Parks, Colleen Henare
Bay of Plenty	Isaac Gibson
Waikato	Matt Besley, Junior Thomas Heeney
Hawke's Bay	Justeen Taurima
Manawatu/Whanganui	April Hemara, Liam Jefferies
Wellington	Luke Teinaki, Indya Lane, Brad Zimmerman
Nelson/Tasman	Dylan Crown
Marlborough	Vicky Mack
West Coast	Marty Wilson
Canterbury	Jeremy De Ath, Hamish Tranter, Holly Jamieson
Otago	Adam Webb

SCRIBE'S STORY



Hip Hop rapper Scribe used to play the pokies nearly everyday.

He realised he had a problem but stopping gambling wasn't easy. Scribe hit rock bottom when his partner left with the children because he couldn't stop gambling or lying about it.

He "dried out" by avoiding pokie venues, seeking support and counselling through the Gambling Helpline; and spending time with family he'd drifted away from during his gambling years.

"I'd like people out there to know there is a way out and avoid making my mistake. Talk to someone, get help early – don't bottle it up and keep it secret like I did," says Scribe.

INDYA LANE'S RAP

[Verse 1]
I find myself stuck at
a crossroads
Feel I could implode under
this heavy load
Feel that I'm being followed
by a black cloud
My life was upside down
Now I'm turning my
life around
Didn't matter where I was
Coz, I just wanted to feel
that buzz
I wanted to feel that thrill
Didn't care about the cost,
didn't care about the bill
I found that the pokies took
all of my time
I was in a bind
Didn't realize I was leaving
my dreams behind
Would have lost everything,
then I opened my eyes
I saw I couldn't resist
the itch
Addiction is a witch
And it was hell stitched up
in its spell.

[Hook]
Your life's your own to deal
Don't rely on the cards or
the spin of a wheel
We need to have a voice,
take a stance
Ending harmful gambling is
a choice and not chance.

[Verse 2]
It feels as if gambling has

got you in a trap
You spend all your time
gambling, you have no life
outside that
Now you wanna have
control, you want your
life back
You feel like you've lost
your way
Find you're losing your loved
ones, losing ya pay
It can seem as if your
troubles weigh, a tonne
If you've ever felt like this,
you're not the only one
It's a battle that needs to
be fought
Don't have to fight alone,
get some support
So even if you're fed up
Don't ya ever let up
Just keep going, keep on
stepping up
Gotta keep moving forward,
gotta advance
It's all up to choice and
not chance
These are the words we
need to sing
Let's choose to end
harmful gambling.

[Hook]
Your life's your own to deal
Don't rely on the cards or
the spin of a wheel
We need to have a voice,
take a stance
Ending harmful gambling is
a choice and not chance.

HOLLY JAMIESON'S RAP

You thought it a good time
To shine
While at your prime
Your chances good
You understood
The rules
Or so you thought
But you got caught
Up in the game
And in your shame
The days spent gambling
Brought you pain

While your family watched
You lost the car
You lost your home
And all you'd known
And spent your days
Gambling alone

Walking home
In the dark of night
Knowing the kids
were hungry
But there was no food
Because you'd used
Up all your money
And had to face
Up to the fact
That the way you act
Has an impact
On those you love

Still this addiction
This dereliction
Of yourself
Only grew
And you turned to crime
And sold your stash
To make some cash
You gambled away
The freedom

To waste every day

But your time was up
You were released
Your addiction
was unleashed
You tried to gamble away
the hurt
And it seemed
There was no end

To the days of pain
There was no gain
And soon you knew
That you were through

You were ashamed
And now you blamed
It on bad luck
But it's choice not chance
You found support
For your hauora
And gave your daughter
Back her father
Cause you'd rather
Spend your days
With your whānau
Than gamble with your life

Let's choose to end
Harmful gambling
By understanding
That it's addictive
And it's harmful
Help is here
Just remember
That life can be unfair
But gambling is a choice
And it's not up to chance
Make the choice to ask
for help
And you will stand a chance

Dunedin Gamblefree Day 2011

Many Gamblefree Day events focussed on raising awareness about gambling related harm by guiding our hearts and minds to think about those caught up in, or affected by, a problem gambling addiction. Rather than focus on individuals, the Dunedin team took a different approach. Part of our work is to reorient agencies, social organisations and businesses to support a reduction in gambling related harm. More specifically, to support the development and adoption of policies that encourage and promote methods of fund-raising which do not involve gambling. In difficult economic times, it is particularly challenging to examine strong funding sources. Nevertheless, our work is to promote public discussion and debate on the ethics of accepting gambling funding.

Chris Watkins from the Salvation Army Oasis Centre, Dunedin, explains the Ethical Funding Forum for Gamblefree Day, how it came about, the discussions that night, and the importance of keeping the dialogue alive.

The continued partnership between the Dunedin Salvation Army Oasis Centre and Te Roopu Tautoko Ki Te Tonga resulted in our hosting an Ethical Funding Forum for Gamblefree day 2011. The event aimed to bring community members together to debate, discuss and explore our dependence, as a community, on the funds that derive from money lost in pokie machines.

The idea for the event came from a number of discussions that we have been having in the city over the last 12 months. In the Dunedin City Council gambling policy submission process, local city councillors talked about the limited power that our community has in deciding whether we want pokies or not, and we became acutely aware of the sports and community groups' need for pokie money for their survival.

We realised that there was no current discussion on the ethics of pokie funding. Quite simply, no prospective government seems likely to consider reducing pokie machine numbers when 'middle New Zealanders' have become used to pokie money paying for their social and sports groups – as well as their children's education.

This was made clearer when we attended a Community Hui for Community Activists in May. We were impressed with the breadth and passion of community activity, and yet the total reliance of the community groups on pokie funding was also apparent. I addressed the group and was interested in the response from participants of the Hui about their discomfort in having to take the pokie money, but also the concern that if they spoke out against the situation they may lose favour with the Gambling Societies and possibly lose future funding opportunities.

In all these discussions, there was a sense of 'stuckness' at the intractability of the situation, a desire to not want to rock the boat due to reprisals, but also a keenness to discuss their own point of view.

In order to free up a space for these conversations, we decided to make the ethical funding issue our focus for Gamblefree Day 2011. We identified all the community and sports groups that received funding from pokies in 2010. We endeavoured to send an invitation to the forum to all 670 groups. Eighty groups contacted us and over 50 Dunedin groups were represented on the night of the forum. We also invited civic leaders from both local and central government.

On the night, Associate Professor Peter Adams from the University of Auckland's School of Population Health delivered a presentation to the audience which explored the basic contradictions to community funding, and introduced the concept of a continuum of moral jeopardy. This continuum could be used to help fundraisers to assess the risk to public profile, value base, and self agency, by accepting gambling funding.

Robbie Ross, the Salvation Army Territorial Public Relations Secretary, spoke to the group from a personal and organisational viewpoint about the complex response to the Salvation Army's refusal of funding from pokies in 2008. He noted the impact of this on his drive to maximise income for the Territorial Salvation Army. He also explained the importance of honouring core values and ethics over funding ease, and the resulting benefits of a positive public profile and a closer link to the community through individual requests for funding. We believe it was a convincing turnaround.

Finally, Sue Russell, the Executive Officer of the Dunedin Council of Social Services, presented on community resources and grassroots development, which was an alternative perspective to the belief that community prosperity is dependent upon economic growth.

Public Health / Harm minimisation and prevention...

Continued from page 14...

The forum was then opened up to the audience and lively discussion commenced, with representatives of political parties, as well as the presenters, fielding questions. The themes of the night centred around alternative funding for groups, and governmental responsibility (both local and central) in fair taxation and their duty to promote the common good. Although it was generally recognised that the evening provided no immediate solutions, there was appreciation for the space to discuss issues openly – and despite the contentious nature of the discussion, the discourse was respectful and warm. GamblingWatch's work in creating a list for those organisations deciding to refuse pokie money was acknowledged, and the booklet created by Glenda Northey on putting the 'fun' back into fundraising will be distributed to those who are interested.

Following the forum a number of participants have contacted us and indicated their interest in creating a working group to further the concepts of community growth and development.

Public Health...

Views of a Practitioner... Christchurch Update

Tony Foster

On my return from a holiday to the UK and the Middle East in early July, I hit the ground running. Our wonderful city continued to suffer from the affects of aftershocks – which have numbered over 3000 to date. As you can imagine this continues to create ongoing stress for local residents, and can lead to people seeking ways to escape it, with gambling a common outlet for this. Indeed, Christchurch spending on pokies is well up from last year - from April to June this year, for example, Christchurch residents spent \$22.8 million on the Pokies. As a result, Oasis Christchurch has seen an increase in help-seeking from both old and new clients.



My own workload has increased dramatically this year, particularly in the area of education, and raising awareness around problem gambling. This has included requests from health and social sector groups, community groups and the general public – many of whom are looking at what is happening with gambling in Christchurch. This has resulted in thirteen power-point presentations since early July.

My role in supporting clients to exclude from venues has also seen an increase since the start of this year. More clients are requesting this help as a means of stopping gambling, which has resulted in 76 exclusions to date! As part of this work, I have had a productive meeting with Neove Christoforou from the DIA, who is working with problem gambling service providers to progress a multi-venue exclusion project (MVEP) in Christchurch. I am currently collaborating with Class 4 venues in relation to the delivery of exclusions, and have been getting some positive responses towards MVEP from managers and bar staff. Our MVEP here in Christchurch will enable a more streamlined approach to exclusion for both clients and service providers.

I also recently met up with the CEO and Christchurch area manager from Credit Union NZ, who has expressed interest in supporting new and old clients with gambling issues. Credit Union NZ has a new system that focuses on helping customers set up separate accounts to pay bills and save. These accounts cannot be drawn down using a money card, which means that bills get paid without funds going on the pokies. I think it sounds good! I will keep you posted.

A group of gambling service providers and social sector services are also currently looking at a campaign to raise awareness of the option of a pokie-free CBD, as part of the Christchurch city rebuild. It is a good time to think about having a CBD area that can be friendlier for all, and not just there for the gamblers and drinkers!

On the home front here at the Christchurch Oasis Office we just all rock on (pardon the pun!). Yes, it gets stressful at times, but we support and care about each other, like the rest of Christchurch - it's a bit like being in a war zone at times, but we push on and we will get there!

Victory for Nelson

Introduction

Part of the Problem Gambling Providers' public health contracted specifications are around policy development and implementation, so our activities include facilitating community action and collaboration with a range of sectors that results in the development of appropriate policies and agreements in community organisations, including councils and not-for-profit agencies. Advocating for policies that reduce gambling related harm, and working with local authorities and other stakeholders to address concerns around the density and locality of gaming venues is a key part of raising awareness, so we were pleased to hear about the Nelson Gambling Taskforce's success. Although not a provider, as a community group they have galvanised action to ensure that legislation and local government policies reflect the needs of a community wanting to minimise the harm from problem gambling.

Angela Mockett tells their story....

In June 2010, when Nelson City Council made changes to Nelson City's local gambling policy, many in the community were dismayed and outraged. The new policy was nothing at all like the 'draft' policy the community had been invited to consult on; worst of all, it seemed designed to specifically allow for a pokie license to be granted to a business in the heart of Victory Village - Nelson's lowest decile neighbourhood. This was a huge blow for a community that only months before had been named as New Zealand's inaugural Community of the Year, in recognition of the way the neighbourhood was working to create a community we could all be proud of.

Immediately following their introduction, individuals and groups began contacting Nelson City Council to protest the policy changes. In addition, upset and angry residents met at the Victory Community Centre, and a protest march was organised on which petitions from Victory were delivered to Nelson City Council's offices in the city. Yet in spite of widespread public concern the Council refused to budge, and maintained that they had followed a 'bullet-proof process', including sufficient public consultation. Within days of the new gambling policy being approved the Council granted a Class 4 venue license to the bar in Victory Square, and were adamant that the licence would not – and could not – be revoked. End of story.

Well, not quite.....

One young man, Darci Goldsworthy (26) (Nga Puhi) was determined not to walk away from something that he felt was so clearly wrong, and undoubtedly that was going to lead to harm for many people. He stood firm and stated simply – “This isn't right and we have to do something about it”. Pretty soon others were standing with him.

In August 2010, the Nelson Gambling Taskforce Incorporated was formed; young Darci was chair and the group set out to put things right. With the help of two lawyers (acting pro-bono) the Society applied to the High Court to have NCC's Gambling Policy changes judicially reviewed. Along the way there were many hurdles. Firstly, the Council requested hundreds of dollars for information it was required to supply under the Official Information Act. Then they sought tens of thousands of dollars in security for costs – amounts the group was unlikely to be able to raise. Amazingly, through sheer determination, street collections and the financial support of both individuals and concerned groups, these barriers were overcome. In late August 2011, after 14 months of standing up to be heard, Darci, assorted society members, and their two young lawyers finally got to sit down. They did so in the High Court in Wellington.

On September 7th 2011, when the Judge released his decision, he didn't mince his words: “what occurred is a significant breach”. He stated that Nelson City Council had not complied with its statutory obligations to consult with the community in a matter of keen social interest, that their draft policy and statement of intent were misleading, and that the process used



From the Community...

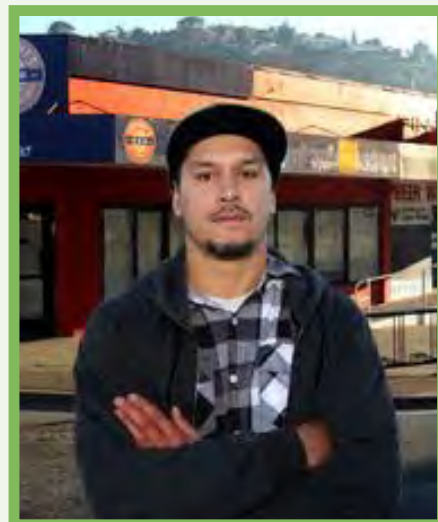
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by Council had “deprived the public of both the information it should have had as well as the correct opportunity to have input into the process.” He declared both the policy changes – and the consent given to the bar in Victory Square – to be invalid.

This was an amazing result for everyone in the Nelson community and beyond, who had fought to uphold their rights to be consulted on gambling issues. It is also a reminder for Councils of their obligations to protect and respect our most vulnerable communities. The Nelson Gambling Taskforce must now approach the Department of Internal Affairs with the Court’s decision, and a request that the Department not renew the Victory Square bar’s Class 4 licence. A final hurdle, but one the group is hopeful of achieving if things are to be truly put right.

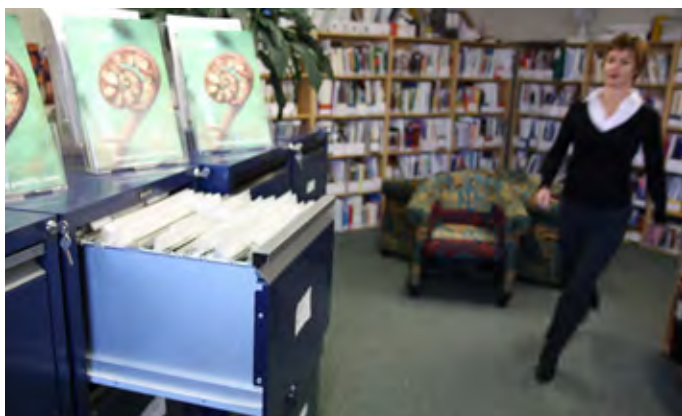
The Nelson Gambling Taskforce wishes to thank every person who played a part in this achievement. In particular, huge thanks must go to the Problem Gambling National Coordination Service for their support and aroha.

Ehara taku toa i te toa taki tahi, engari he toa taki tini. This has not been the success of any one, but the success of many.



Darci Goldsworthy

Public Health (Resources)...

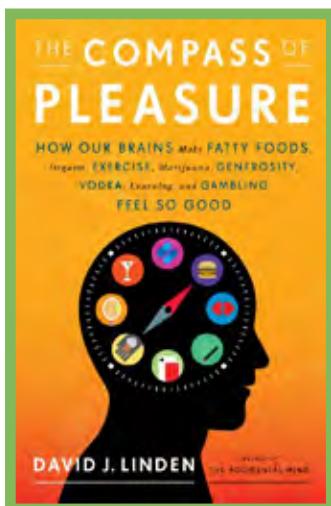


The Problem Gambling Library
www.pgfnz.org.nz

TE RŌPŪ ĀWHINA MATE PETIPETI O AOTEAROA
Problem Gambling Foundation
of New Zealand



New Books



The Compass of Pleasure: How Our Brains Make Fatty Foods, Orgasm, Exercise, Marijuana, Generosity, Vodka, Learning, and Gambling Feel So Good

David J. Linden

David Linden is a professor of neuroscience at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He has written this book for the lay person, explaining the latest developments in neuroscience (as well as a few classics) and how they lead to a greater understanding of the brain’s neural rewards system. It is quite an unusual book, and not quite as fun to read as the title suggests, but it does cover and explain in depth the various relevant scientific studies. He includes a whole chapter on gambling. He does attempt to lighten the science content by being flippant about drugs and sex etc, but he doesn’t quite pull it off. However he does provide a comprehensive analysis of why we feel compelled to keep “mashing the pleasure button” as he calls it. Note, this is not a good read if you are disturbed by testing on animals at all!

Public Health (Resources)...



High Stakes: The Rising Cost of America's Gambling Addiction

Sam Skolnik

Thirty-five years ago, casinos were legal in just one state, Nevada. Today, legalized gambling has morphed into a \$92 billion industry established in all but two states. As elected officials are urging voters to expand gambling's reach, the industry's supporters and their equally impassioned detractors are squaring off in prolonged state-by-state battles. Millions of Americans are being asked to decide: Are the benefits worth the costs?

Sam Skolnick is an investigative journalist, and an avid poker player, struggling to control his own habits. The book moves from the poignant personal stories of problem gamblers, to the history of gambling in Nevada, through to a searing warning about the true costs of gambling expansion in an age when more and more cash-pressed states look to gambling expansion as a means of addressing budget shortfalls.

New Fact Sheets

We are in the process of redesigning all our fact sheets and currently have 8 new ones available on our website. The full series will be as follows:

- » 01 Gambling in NZ
- » 02 Problem gambling
- » 03 Young people
- » 04 Online gambling
- » 05 Social impacts
- » 06 Self exclusion
- » 07 Lotteries
- » 08 Alcohol and other addictions
- » 09 Pokie machines and trusts
- » 10 Maori
- » 11 Asian
- » 12 Pasifika
- » 13 Smoking position paper

Mobile sports betting on the rise

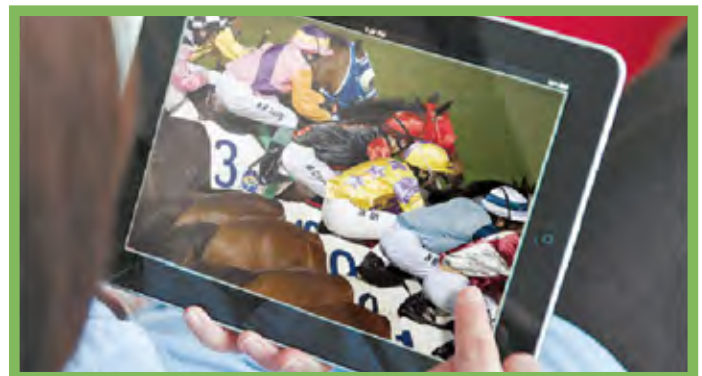
Last month, Betfair, the largest online betting company in the UK and the largest betting exchange in the world, announced that smartphone betting had doubled in the 3 months to July 31 compared with the same period last year.

Some 7.4 million bets were placed with Betfair on mobile devices during this period, with a third of all wagers with the company now placed on a mobile product.

In this country, we are beginning to see stories in the press about the impact of the RWC on the rise of harmful online sports betting in New Zealand. Many are predicting a rise in the number of clients for whom this is becoming a problem.

The Ministry of Health has recently revised the Primary Problem Gambling Mode data capture within the CLIC database to ensure online options are appropriately available for clinicians to record gambling harm where gambling is undertaken online.

The TAB can offer a large array of bets on the whole RWC tournament. It offered 33 betting options just for the Japan-New Zealand match, and it can also offer a variety of live, in-play bets. Although the TAB is the only New Zealand company allowed to offer online sports betting to residents in this country, it is not illegal for New Zealanders to gamble on internationally-hosted sites. These betting sites can offer an almost endless range of options for people to wager on, with the rise of in-play, exotic, spot betting in sports becoming a concern across many sporting codes. Spot betting, where gamblers place wagers on sometimes relatively incidental elements of games such as no-balls in cricket or corner kicks in soccer, is considered the area of sports gambling most susceptible to corruption. The International Cricket Council, FIFA and the International Olympics Committee have all been battling gambling corruption scandals, mostly involving spot-

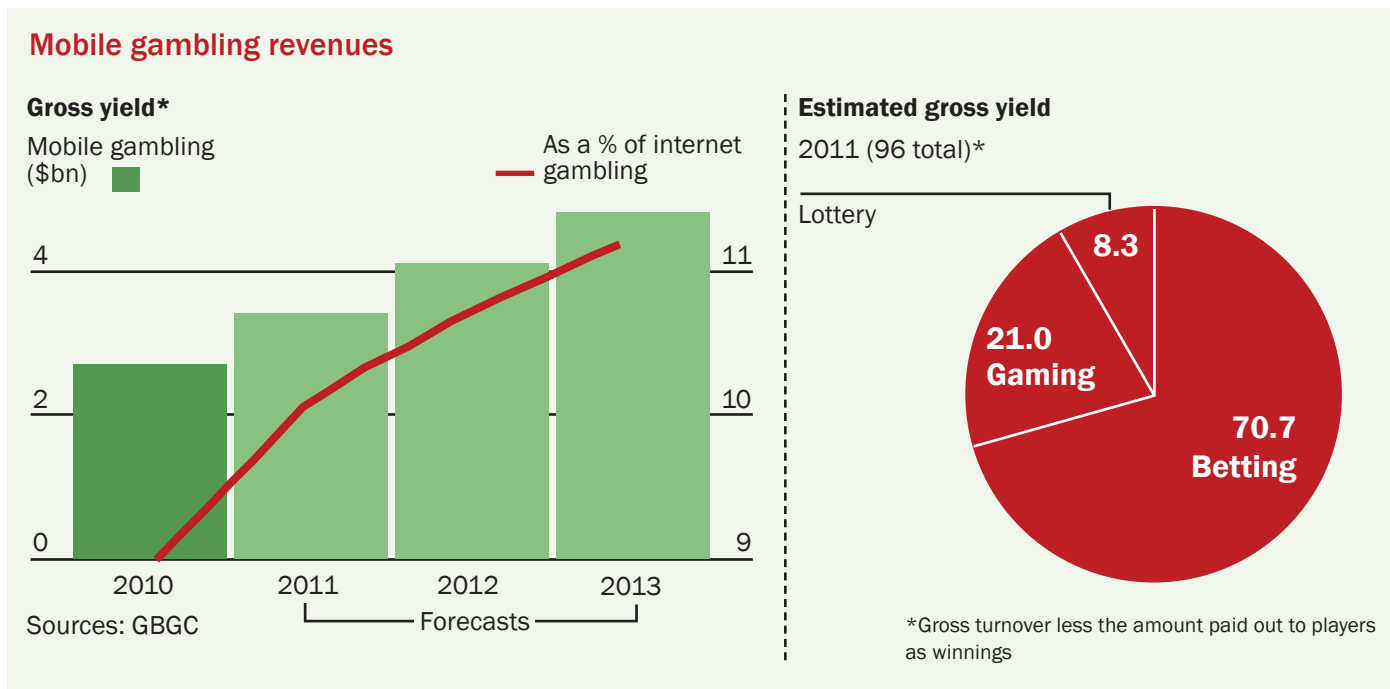


Public Health (Resources)...

Continued from page 14...

betting. FIFA in particular is under threat, with player suicides and match-fixing scandals stretching from Finland to the Far East. We don't want rugby to go the same way.

TV3 online recently ran a story where a TAB spokesperson, John Mitchell, claimed there had been a "huge lift" in online betting since the start of the World Cup. We, as a sector, need to be braced for the potential fall-out of this. We also need to be asking the questions, in the community, about how we can ensure that both the integrity and the enjoyment of the game are maintained in the face of these offerings.



Workforce Development...

Online Counselling and Therapies

Sharlene Wong, Projects Co-ordinator/Counsellor/Trainer/Supervisor, ABACUS Counselling, Training and Supervision Ltd

Nearly twelve months ago, during my annual performance review, I set a professional development goal to learn more about on-line counselling and therapeutic interventions. This seemed particularly relevant given the growing popularity of on-line gambling, and the fact that some of my supervisees delivered these kinds of interventions as part of their services.

Over the following months I scanned the internet and phoned around, firstly looking for a course in New Zealand, and then in Australia. The papers I found could only be completed if I enrolled in a degree. I pondered on strategies to motivate my employer to send me to Europe, became disheartened, and then things came to a standstill. About a month ago, I thought about the cost of my daughter's braces and my looming performance review, and decided to get creative and bring a trainer to New Zealand! Here is the result...

Online Counselling and Therapy: A 5-Day Intensive Workshop

Delivered by Dr. Leon Tan (PhD, MBACP UK) for ABACUS Counselling, Training and Supervision Ltd.

Dr. Leon Tan is a BACP (UK) registered psychotherapist based between Sweden and New Zealand. He worked as a tenured lecturer in psychotherapy, and a lecturer in media-art history in Auckland, before relocating for part of the year to Gothenburg in 2009. He has extensive experience treating depression, anxiety, addictions and relational conflicts, and has worked with children, teenagers and adults in a variety of settings including private practice, a government



Workforce Development...

Continued from page 19...

child protection service and a university health centre. He is an expert in online mental health services, having established or consulted in the development of online counselling and therapy services for a number of universities and private providers in Australia and New Zealand. <http://twitter.com/hyblis>

Date: Monday 14 November to Friday 18 November 2011 inclusive (10am-4pm each day.)

Venue: Salvation Army, 691 Mt Albert Road, Mt Albert, Auckland.

Cost for the five day training: \$550 + GST per person.



The five days will include:

- » An introduction to the history of online counselling and therapy in New Zealand and around the world, its current status in psycho-professional circles both locally and internationally, and its uptake by clients in individual (private practice) and organisational (publicly funded) service forms.
- » Email, Skype, videoconferencing and instant messaging-based counselling and interventions.
- » Supervision of on-line counselling.
- » Supervision via the phone and internet.
- » Blogging and forums as self, peer-based and professional guided writing therapies.
- » Ethical and legal issues.
- » Security, privacy/anonymity/pseudonymity and dealing with emergencies.
- » Treating addictions using networked technologies. Analysis of the success of New Zealand's STOMP Smoking Cessation Programme.
- » Social media for outreach and psycho-education.

This workshop includes case studies and interactive exercises. It is limited to 20 participants. Please note that this is not a Ministry of Health-funded project and participants are likely to include counsellors and organisations from within and outside the addiction sector – so please register ASAP.

For a comprehensive five day programme and registration details, please contact Sharlene at ABACUS Counselling, Training and Supervision Ltd sharlene@acts.co.nz

If you are interested but cannot attend the 5-day workshop, Leon will be presenting two seminars which will provide an overview of the most relevant material, as detailed below.

Online Counselling and Therapy: Half Day Seminar

Date: Monday 21 November.

Venue: St Columba Centre, 40 Vermont St, Ponsonby, Auckland.

The seminar is being presented at the following times (seminar is repeated): 9.30am to 12.30pm and 1.30pm to 4.30pm.

Cost: \$60 + GST per seminar.

Again, participant numbers will be limited, so please register your interest ASAP.

The half-day seminar provides a brief introduction to online counselling and therapy as a rapidly expanding scope of practice within the mental health professions. Participants can expect a synoptic overview of current developments in online mental health services, coverage of legal, ethical and security/privacy issues relating to the provision of online services locally and globally, and a group learning exercise in email based counselling/therapy. As a short seminar, this does not prepare the participant to set up and deliver online services, but serves to introduce some of the main issues related to this emergent scope of practice, and to suggest possibilities for the development of such services in New Zealand. It is a 'lite' version of the week-long ABACUS Counselling, Training and Supervision Ltd workshop which is being held during 14-18 November.

Please email sharlene@acts.co.nz for further details.

Feedback on the AUT Problem Gambling Papers

Sean Sullivan, ABACUS

As we have previously described, Abacus is teaching two papers on gambling at AUT. 'Presenting Populations in Gambling 567531' provides an overview and health promotion perspective, whilst 'Gambling Studies 567534' has a clinical focus and incorporates issues around the draft competencies. These have now both been taught over two years, and the first distance learning option (for the clinically-focussed paper) has commenced. With the initial students enrolled and currently participating, we are grateful to the Coordination service for their timely reminders to the sector.



Smoothing the way

Two issues that Abacus has noted have relevance for the sector, and perhaps require action on our part as well. Firstly, there was a strong response from the problem gambling treatment sector indicating an intention to enrol in a distance delivered paper, if it was made available. Unfortunately, this has not converted into the expected level of enrolments (although a last minute surge indicates that other issues may have been occupying the attention of organisations and their counsellors). Technical issues during the enrolment process may also have had a part to play, whereby some individuals were awaiting responses from AUT. In this respect, we will endeavour to arrange assistance earlier for any such problems.

Secondly, although the distance learning clinical paper is fully comprised of problem gambling treatment counsellors, enrolments on the campus-based version of the paper do not reflect our sector at all. Indeed, the paper delivered in August/September this year was attended mostly by those studying or working outside of the problem gambling sector (only 10%-15% of the class were from our sector).

What does this mean?

It is possible that there is strong interest in problem gambling amongst other addiction workers; of note, many of the students were employed in health promotion roles and perhaps viewed a clinical paper on gambling as both interesting and applicable to their work. With the advent of CEP (addiction and coexisting mental health problems), there is likely to be growing interest in problem gambling and appropriate interventions from outside of our sector. The aim of Te Ariari o te Oranga¹, the CEP publication (2010), is that all addiction counsellors aim towards being CEP capable and then CEP competent. In addition, those working within the much larger mental health field will be working towards addiction capability and competence. This, in itself, should ensure continuing interest in problem gambling education and qualifications.

Next year's courses

Problem gambling competencies have now been approved by the Ministry of Health and signed off by Health Workforce NZ. The clinical paper has been aligned with these competencies; in addition, due to the need to provide a way for busy practitioners to participate the distance paper has been developed. We also intend to gauge the level of interest in a distance version of the second problem gambling paper. From the high level of interest shown earlier from problem gambling treatment organisations and others (e.g. alcohol treatment and primary health organisations) it is expected that enrolments for next year's paper, and perhaps papers (plural), will be well patronised.

¹ Todd, F.C. 2010. *Te Ariari o te Oranga: the Assessment and Management of People with Co-existing Mental Health and Substance Use Problems*. Ministry of Health, Wellington.

Evaluation... Evaluation... Evaluation

Zoe Martin-Hawke, Hapai Te Hauora Tapui, Te Kakano Workforce Development Problem Gambling, zoe.hawke@hapai.co.nz

The last few months have seen Te Kakano researching and testing different evaluation tools and resources for public health workforce development.

A training session on designing evaluation forms was included at the recent Asian forum. Much discussion took place about the types of questions we ask to get useful feedback, and training participants came up with some thought provoking ideas to improve our evaluation processes.

Te Kakano has also been working with SHORE/Whariki to develop an evaluation handbook for the problem gambling sector, using 'real life' case studies from across the country. We hope to include some evaluation insights from Asian providers in the handbook, as well as from Maori, Pacific and mainstream providers.

In addition, Te Kakano has been trialling an exciting evaluation tool (with help from Denis McLeod from Toiora). It consists of a digital pen which allows handwritten forms and notes to be digitised, and automatically integrated into your existing applications. The company that distributes the digital pens (Touching Base) allowed us to trial the product for (Auckland-based) Oasis, PGF, Hapai and Waka at the Waitemata Gamblefree Day event. Te Kakano staff designed the evaluation questions (which were a mixture of 'tick box' options and open questions) and then spent the event day interviewing participants and recording results using the digital pens. Rangatahi seemed to really enjoy using the new technology, and therefore did not take much prompting to complete the evaluation forms! Once evaluations were completed, the digital pen integrated the handwriting into Microsoft Office. The ease of gathering and transferring information on to the computer impressed Te Kakano and other organisations involved in the event. There are many research tools and support options available for our sector, and Te Kakano looks forward to regularly providing everyone with links to this information.

4th International Gambling Conference

Auckland, New Zealand | 22-24 February 2012
Shaping the Future of Gambling - Positive Change through Policy, Practice and Research



INTERNATIONAL GAMBLING CONFERENCE

Ma te kōrero ka mohio, Ma te mohio ka marama,
Ma te marama ka matau, Ma te matau ka ora

Te ao hurihuri me te petipeti - The world of gambling today

Across the world gambling industries are changing and evolving, expanding into new markets and reaching new demographics. We are all seeking positive outcomes in this environment but need to determine what they are and how we measure them.

This conference will examine how positive change can be brought about through research, policy and practice.

The conference is being held at Auckland's Crowne Plaza Hotel, 22-24 February 2012 and is hosted by Hapai Te Hauora Tapui Maori Public Health, the Gambling and Addictions Research Centre at Auckland University of Technology (AUT) and the Problem Gambling Foundation of New Zealand (PGF). As a prelude to the conference there will be workshops on Monday 20 and Tuesday 21 February 2012.

Registrations for the conference are open so get in early to take advantage of the special 'early bird' rate. The deadline for abstracts is 25 November 2011. Please visit www.internationalgamblingconference.com for further information.

***Ma te kōrero ka mohio, Ma te mohio ka marama, Ma te marama ka matau, Ma te matau ka ora
Through discussion comes understanding, through understanding comes light, through light comes wisdom,
through wisdom comes wellbeing***



Exploring Impacts Of Gambling On Pacific Families And Communities

Dr Maria Bellringer and Bridget Fa'amatuaunu: Gambling and Addictions Research Centre, AUT University

As we all know, there is limited research on the impacts of gambling on Pacific peoples in New Zealand. This is despite Pacific peoples being one of the most at-risk population groups for developing problem gambling.

The Gambling and Addictions Research Centre, AUT University, is conducting a research project (funded by the Ministry of Health) to investigate the impacts of gambling and problem gambling on Pacific communities and families. The aims of the project are to:

- » Improve understanding of the impact of gambling on the health and well being of Pacific families and communities
- » Inform understanding on risk and resiliency factors in relation to gambling
- » Improve understanding on the antecedents and aetiology of problem gambling
- » Support the development of Pacific research capacity in the problem gambling sector.

Bridget Fa'amatuaunu is welcomed as a key researcher on this project. Bridget is of Samoan descent and is currently studying for her PhD at the School of Population Health, University of Auckland. She has a multidisciplinary research background.

The first phase of this project is almost complete, and has involved secondary analyses of existing datasets to tease out findings around Pacific gambling and associated variables. The second phase of the project is qualitative and involves focus groups and semi-structured interviews with Pacific communities (both gambling and non-gambling) across each of the major Pacific ethnic groups. The overall project is being guided by a Pacific Consultation Group established specifically for the study. This Group has already made an invaluable contribution to the research, advising on the project methodology, the focus group and interview design, and the indicative topics for discussion in the upcoming qualitative data collection phase.

Focus groups and interviews will be conducted with the following categories of Pacific peoples:

- » General community gamblers
- » General community non-gamblers
- » Current or ex-problem gamblers
- » Community youth gamblers (NZ and Island born)
- » Significant others of gamblers
- » Church leaders.

Additionally, two other focus groups will be held with key stakeholders: 1) Pacific staff of gambling treatment providers; and, 2) Pacific gambling venue staff.

By the time this newsletter is published, we expect to be in the middle of recruiting participants for the focus groups and interviews. **We would like to enlist your assistance if you are able to help recruit potential participants who would fit in one of the above groups.** We are looking for Pacific peoples mainly in the Auckland area, although other parts of the country may be considered if enough participants to comprise a focus group can be recruited. The topics of discussion in the focus groups and interviews will be at a broad level around gambling, culture and impacts on families and communities - they will not necessarily be focused on individual experiences.

If you are able to assist with recruitment, please contact Bridget Fa'amatuaunu at bridget.faamatuaunu@aut.ac.nz, phone: 09 921 9999 ext 7408 or Dr Maria Bellringer at maria.bellringer@aut.ac.nz, phone: 09 921 9999 ext 7232.

Youth and Problem Gambling

Dr Fiona Rossen and Rachael Butler, Centre for Gambling Studies, School of Population Health, University of Auckland

This project explored youth participation in gambling, the impact of problem gambling on young people in New Zealand (including identifiable risk and resiliency factors) and best practice approaches for providing problem gambling services to young people. It consisted of a literature review, a scoping exercise to determine datasets appropriate for a secondary analysis, a secondary analysis of data from Youth'07 - The Second National Health and Wellbeing Survey of New Zealand Secondary School Students, and interviews with individuals working within youth gambling and related fields.

Analysis of the Youth'07 dataset revealed that approximately one-quarter of participating students had gambled in the past year, and less than one-tenth had gambled in the past four weeks. Males were more likely than females to have gambled in the past four weeks and there was a general trend for recent gambling to increase with age. Students indicated that they do not typically spend much money or time on gambling activities - a very small proportion indicated that they spend \$20 or more (and/or 30 minutes a day) on gambling in a typical week. The most frequently cited reasons for gambling centred on having fun and winning money and the most 'popular' modes included bets with friends, Instant Kiwi, cards or coins, and Lotto (including Strike, Powerball etc). 'Gambling to relax', 'gambling to feel better about myself', and 'gambling to forget about things' were all identified as 'red flags' or early indicators that gambling behaviour is moving towards unhealthy levels - whereas 'school connectedness' was identified as fulfilling a protective function. A number of demographic variables, including earning more than \$100 per week, being male, gambling because friends do, and gambling because family do, were all significantly associated with an increased risk of unhealthy gambling. Two types of gambling were also found to be particularly risky for young people - gambling at a casino (on EGMs or tables) and gambling over the internet.

Interviews with staff employed in the AOD, gambling and youth sectors revealed a general perception that gambling was not a significant problem for youth in this country. However, a lack of recognition of problematic gambling behaviour by both youth and adults was felt to create barriers for young people accessing help. Gambling on-line was highlighted as an area of concern. Findings from the research suggest that best practice for youth problem gambling services should involve existing providers and structures as a means of: addressing the current silo-based approach to service delivery; streamlining young people's access to services; and, to ensure that resources are distributed in a cost-effective manner. A one-stop-shop model of service delivery was put forward as an effective way of working young people, with gambling services provided alongside other (family-inclusive) health and social services. Participants also noted the limitations of such an approach. A 'by youth, for youth' philosophy was considered best practice, with services provided in a youth-centric environment and incorporating a range of delivery methods. A need for further education of youth was highlighted (e.g. on potential risks, help-seeking advice, etc.), and included targeting young children in schools.

The results outlined in this report indicate that a substantial proportion of young people do engage with gambling. The strong gender bias identified needs to be considered by those aiming to address the public health and intervention needs of young people for gambling. Moreover, the 'early indicators' of unhealthy gambling may be useful for health professionals, as well as for youth themselves and their families/whanau. Given that youth indicated that they were participating in a number of modes that should theoretically be unavailable to them due to legislation around age limits, attention clearly needs to be paid to the availability of gambling to minors. This is particularly important when considering gambling modes that were shown to present an increased risk of unhealthy gambling behaviour - such as casino gambling (EGMs and tables) and gambling via the internet. The roles of gambling policy and legislation, host responsibility, and education (of youth/parents/teachers etc), all need to be explored further with regard to the availability of gambling in general. A societal perception of gambling as being less severe than other youth risky behaviours may also be contributing to the availability and accessibility of gambling activities to adolescents. Social connectedness was shown to have an important role in moderating or protecting against unhealthy gambling behaviour in youth, including connectedness to a school environment. Best practice guidelines for mental health promotion programmes highlight the importance of intervening in multiple settings, with a focus on schools as a key setting for interventions. However, the effectiveness of education programmes in positively impacting on youth gambling behaviour is not well understood and requires further investigation.

For further information, please contact Dr Fiona Rossen at f.rossen@auckland.ac.nz

Scholarships Now Open

Hoe Whā Problem Gambling Workforce and Research Scholarships

Te Rau Matatini and Health Workforce New Zealand are pleased to offer Problem Gambling scholarships for study in 2012. Funded by the Ministry of Health the scholarships are for students studying undergraduate and postgraduate papers that will lead to developing the problem gambling and gambling workforce. The Hoe Whā scholarships also aim to enhance research capacity, to enable and inform the Ministry of Health's integrated problem gambling strategy.

The undergraduate scholarships are available to those:

- » Currently working in the problem gambling or gambling workforce, and
- » Undertaking a relevant study programme in the 2012 academic year

The undergraduate scholarships of up to \$4,000 per year are available for a maximum of 2 years.

The postgraduate scholarships are available to those:

- » Undertaking Postgraduate studies and/or a Masters thesis involving research associated with problem gambling

The Postgraduate and Masters scholarships of up to \$12,000 per year are available for a maximum of 2 years

- » Undertaking a PhD involving research associated with problem gambling

The PhD scholarships of up to \$20,000 per year are available for up to 2 years.

For an application booklet contact:

Keri Newman	or
Project Manager, Scholarships	Tracey Potiki
0800 MATATINI (628284)	0800 MATATINI (628284)
(04) 473 9591 ext 815	(04) 473 9591 ext 814
scholarships@matatini.co.nz	Mobile: 027 587 1888

The closing date for all Te Rau Matatini Scholarships is 5pm, Friday 20 January 2012.

Visit www.matatini.co.nz to download an application booklet.

Problem Gambling Outcomes Framework

By the time you read this KPMG will be well underway in the consultation process, having engaged with a number of Providers, Industry stakeholders and Government agencies in Auckland and Wellington. The last step in the consultation process is to attend the National Maori Problem Gambling Hui 2011, and we look forward to some valuable discussion and feedback on:

- » How the sector can make best use of the outcomes framework and gain maximum value
- » Sector representatives for the Advisory Group.

The Ministry and KPMG are very clear that an effective outcomes framework that helps drive better outcomes can only be successful if the extensive and diverse knowledge, skills and experience of the key leaders from each sector and their teams is incorporated into the design and reporting of this outcomes framework. The Ministry believes that that the outcomes framework can be a vital tool that stakeholders in the sector can use to demonstrate the contributions they are making to reducing and minimising harms from gambling. Consequently, wide consultation at the start, middle and end of this programme is essential.

By now, you should all have received a briefing pack of what the consultation will cover. If not, please don't hesitate to contact the email address below.

If you have any questions regarding the consultation process or you have been unable to attend the consultation workshops and would like to provide feedback, please email tbowe@kpmg.co.nz.



Mike Bazett



Blair Wightman



Terry Bowe



Mereraina Piripi

Derek Thompson

Team Leader – Problem Gambling, Mental Health and Addictions Programmes

Welcome to you all to the third quarterly newsletter for 2011.

The problem gambling provider sector continues to support the preventing and minimising gambling harm with individuals and across communities. In this past quarter, there has been a wider connection through the Health Sponsorship Council's Kiwi Lives campaign - Stage 3 rollout of the "Choice Not Chance" message coupled with Gamblefree Day events across NZ. Problem gambling providers are able to access problem gambling resources which promote the "Choice Not Chance" theme in time to support the lead up to Gamblefree Day and beyond.

Reflected in this update are some highlights to date from the Ministry's workplan.

Ministry of Health

Of particular attention as the upcoming election in November 2011 approaches is a reminder and requirement for Ministry funded organisations to maintain the Ministry's political neutrality and impartiality.

National Problem Gambling Team

In mid September 2011, the National Problem Gambling Team welcomed Dion Williams - Senior Contract Manager on board. Dion joins us with a wealth of skills and experience and is a welcome addition to the team. Dion is looking to familiarise himself with the sector and meeting with the problem gambling providers in due course.

Outcomes Monitoring Framework

The outcomes monitoring framework project is officially underway. Following an open contestable process, KPMG have been selected to undertake this project.

KPMG and the Ministry both agree that it's important that all stakeholders are actively involved in progressing and directing this project, and KPMG has identified opportunities for problem gambling providers to be involved. Background papers and invitations to stakeholder forums have been sent out to the problem gambling provider sector and other key stakeholders for forums to be held in October.

This project is a great opportunity to pull a whole range of information sources together in a manner that provides an accessible and meaningful gauge of the effects and issues facing gambling harm and problem gambling in New Zealand. The outcomes monitoring reports will be key documents for informing the next 6-year strategic plan.

Asian Problem Gambling Provider Forum

The Asian Problem Gambling Provider Forum was held in August 2011. The Ministry wishes to thank all participants and contributors who were able to attend. The forum allowed for interactive workforce development, collaboration of ideas and opportunities to hear perspectives that are directly relevant to the Asian community and minimising gambling harm. Presentations were provided by several service agencies routinely working with NZ Asian Communities; including SkyCity representatives who presented on the casino's host responsibility activities. This provided valuable first-hand perspectives which fitted well with the theme of "Working Together We Can Make A Difference". All the presenters were generous of their time and contribution to the forum.

CLIC Refresh update

Intervention service providers have had an opportunity to see the newly updated features from the CLIC refresh system. As a reminder to all, please continue to capture CLIC data as usual. The data migration process has been completed and the new CLIC refresh will be ready for official release soon.

Intervention Service Practitioner Requirements Handbook Update

As many of you will be aware, the Ministry has been revising the Intervention Service Practice Requirements Handbook to align with CLIC-Refresh and feedback provided from the sector since version 1.1 was published in 2008 (it seems amazing it was that long ago!).

Continued from page 26...

Together with lots of support from the team at Abacus Counselling, Training and Supervision Ltd, Alan Radford of Radco Consulting Ltd, Grant Paton-Simpson of Paton Simpson and Associates, and heaps of helpful people from services all around the country, a draft final copy is ready for wider sector feedback and testing.

It is the Ministry's intention to publish the revised handbook again, as was done with the last version - most of the feedback from the sector has advised us that people prefer having a hard copy on their desk over an electronic reference. However, before it is printed, the Ministry would like to test the changes and amendments with the sector. This was seen as particularly important to ensure that the handbook accurately aligns with the Ministry's intentions for CLIC-Refresh.

Draft version 1.2 is now enthusiastically awaiting your comments, questions and suggestions. The Ministry's hope is that all practitioners will have a chance to review the new document as they begin to engage with CLIC-Refresh. Electronic copies have been sent to all organisations, if you haven't seen a copy and want a chance to provide feedback, contact your Ministry contract manager and they'll send one out.

Please forward all feedback to dean_adam@moh.govt.nz

Gamblefree Day

The Gamblefree Day on Thursday 1 September 2011 was observed around the country with many local community events being held. As highlighted in this newsletter edition, there were many positive and encouraging outcomes for providers and local participants alike. This year Gamblefree Day was the first opportunity for many services to promote the Kiwi Lives Stage three campaign message "Choice Not Chance". Initial feedback suggests the 'Choice Not Chance' approach was received positively in the community event setting.

Multi-Venue Exclusion Project

The Ministry understands that progress on the Multi-Venue Exclusion Project (MVEP) continues to be built through providers and support by the Department of Internal Affairs. Delivery and implementation of the process itself brings both challenges as well as a valuable opportunity for the problem gambling Sector to work collaboratively with the Department of Internal Affairs and Gaming Industry sectors to prevent and minimise gambling harm.

Research

Below is a quick summary update of the research projects that are currently in progress.

A small project Exploring Youth Participation in Gambling and the Impact of Problem Gambling on Young People in New Zealand has recently been completed by Dr Fiona Rossen of the University of Auckland. The final report for this project has been finalised and will soon be available on the Ministry's website. You can read more about the findings of this study on page 24 in this edition of the newsletter.

Another project, from last years provider initiated research round, on the Delivery of Problem Gambling Services to Prison Inmates is also nearing completion. The Ministry and the University of Auckland are in the process of finalising the report for this project with the Department of Corrections. Once finalised the University will prepare a media statement for the project and the report will be available on the Ministry's website.

The Ministry is pleased to announce that the negotiations for the 2011 round of provider initiated research was completed in the last quarter and Hapai Te Hauora Tapui Ltd has commenced a project to investigate Maori input into Decision Making on Gambling and Abacus Counselling Training and Supervision Ltd is starting a project around understanding Effective Facilitation Service Delivery.

The Ministry is about to request proposals for the 2012 round of Provider Initiated research projects this month, so start thinking about your ideas, and working on your proposals. Check www.gets.govt.nz for the RFP. The Ministry will also advertise the RFP through the National Coordination Service, so make sure they have your contact details if you are interested.

Conclusion

In closing, the Ministry of Health acknowledges the continuing effort and work of many individuals and organisations that are making a positive contribution to the objectives under the Preventing and Minimising Gambling Harm Strategy 2010 to 2016.

Contact:

For more information or to contribute to future newsletters, please contact: Maria Butler
On behalf of the National Coordination Service

Email: Maria_Butler@nzf.salvationarmy.org
Tel: 09 639 1131

What's Happening...

Calendar of Events for 2011 - 2012

21st July	AOD Leadership Day - Auckland
15th – 16th August	National Coordination Service: National Asian Provider Forum – Auckland Abacus: Asian Problem Gambling Clinical Training Te Kakano: Asian Problem Gambling Public Health Training
22nd – 23rd August	Barry Duncan Workshop - Auckland
31st August – 2nd September	PHA Conference - Christchurch
1st September	Gamblefree Day - Nationwide
1st – 2nd September	Cutting Edge Conference - Auckland
26th – 28th October	National Coordination Service: National Maori Provider Hui – hosted by Nga Kete Maturanga Pounamu - Bluff
14th – 18th November	Online Counselling and Therapy training (five days inclusive) with Leon Tan
21st November	Online Counselling and Training (half day seminars) with Leon Tan
24th November	AOD Leadership Day - Wellington
23rd – 25th November	NAGS 22nd Annual Conference – Melbourne, Australia
22nd – 24th February 2012	4th International Gambling Conference - Auckland

Notes:

- Abacus is also able to provide a limited amount of ad hoc support to problem gambling service providers around the country.
- The dates provided in this calendar are indicative only and may be subject to change

Check your gambling health

Eight Gambling Screen: Early Intervention Gambling Health Test. Answer these questions as truthfully as you can, to check your gambling well-being:

1. I've sometimes felt depressed or anxious after a session of gambling:
Yes | No
2. I've sometimes felt guilty about the way I gamble: Yes | No
3. When I think about it, gambling has sometimes caused me problems:
Yes | No
4. I've sometimes found it better not to tell others, especially my family, about the amount of time or money I spend gambling: Yes | No
5. I often find that when I stop gambling I've run out of money: Yes | No
6. I often get the urge to return to gambling to win back losses from a past session: Yes | No
7. I have received criticism about my gambling in the past: Yes | No
8. I have tried to win money to pay debts: Yes | No

Scoring Guide:

If you answered 'yes' to four or more questions, gambling is negatively affecting your well-being. Make a positive change by contacting the Gambling Helpline on 0800 654 655. Free, confidential support open 24/7.

Self assessment test developed by Abacus Counselling and Training Services
www.acts.co.nz