

Problem Gambling Services



Announcements

Oregon Department of Human Services

Addictions and Mental Health Division

January 2009

Reminder: The Next State-wide PGS Web Meeting is Feb. 13th 10-12noon



Staff changes? Please notify **Patricia** ASAP so we can keep our records current!
patricia.alderson@state.or.us

Feedback About PGS Meetings

Several of you have expressed your concern about the lack of face to face meetings and how it has resulted in a sense of being disconnected. I hear that concern and am responding by suggesting we look for even more ways to connect through the newsletter, web meetings, phone conferences, etc. We will continue to have twice yearly conferences which is a great way to connect with your colleagues. In these uncertain economic times, I believe it is ever more incumbent upon us to conserve our limited resources. If you have ideas, please contact me so we can thoughtfully consider them. In the meantime, I commit to being even more diligent to use the resources we have to ensure you all have up to date information as quickly as possible and we find every opportunity to discuss the issues of the day. To that end, I will be starting monthly web meeting. focused on legislative, budget and policy issues. I will provide an update on legislative developments and will be tracking the budget approval process. Watch for more on this soon.

New Resource:

GamTalk is an online community for people with gambling issues to share their experiences and ideas. It is a free forum operated as an independent non-profit organization within Canada. [Website: http://www.gamtalk.org/](http://www.gamtalk.org/)

PGS Problem Gambling Spring Conference May 1 and 2, 2009 Vancouver, WA

The Oregon Council on Problem Gambling, our conference coordinators, are teaming up with their Washington counterparts, the Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling to bring us a greatly expanded set of offerings.

The conference will feature some great keynotes and tracks on various topics, including **treatment AND prevention**. You'll all receive more information in the next couple of weeks, so for now be sure to mark your calendars and don't miss this event!

Allocation Management Update

We are in the last half of the last year of the 07/08 Budget year. Allocations are being compared to actuals with variances being computed. I have had discussions about this with some of you and will continue to do so. Adjustments need to be made soon to ensure we end the year as budget neutral as possible. I prefer not to have a lot of counties or programs that are in payback positions. I do not always know who in your agency should be involved with this process so I trust that if it comes to your desk, you will shepherd the process to ensure the right people are at the table to make decisions about your allocations. More to follow soon.

Problem Gambling Services Staff

Contact

Title

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|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
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| Jackie Fabrick | Gambling Treatment Specialist |
| Greta Coe | Outreach Specialist |
| Patricia Alderson | Administrative Support |

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DHS Problem Gambling Services web site: <http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/addiction/gambling.shtml>