# Community Readiness Assessment Problem Gambling Interview Questions

**INTRODUCTION**

Hello, my name is *(name),* and I am with *(agency name).* We are conducting interviews in (name of community) to get your thoughts about problem gambling in (county/community). I'm contacting key people and organizations in (name of community) that represent the areas of prevention, treatment, mental health, medical, community members at large, school, law enforcement, parents, religious/spiritual and elected officials. **The purpose of the interviews is to learn more about how your community is addressing problem gambling so that we may be adequately informed to develop prevention strategies for the community to implement.** This interview should last about a half an hour to an hour and of course, the entire process, including individual names and your name will be kept confidential. Our definition of “problem gambling” is ……… any gambling, betting or wagering that causes family, financial, legal, emotional or other problems for the gambler, their family or others.

**A. PREVENTION PROGRAMMING**

**B. COMMUNITY KNOWLEDGE ABOUT PREVENTION**

1. In your opinion, using a scale from 1-10, how much of a priority is problem gambling to your community with one being not at all and ten being a high priority? Please explain your rating. (A)

2. Please describe the efforts, programs or activities that are available in your community to address problem gambling? (A)

3. How long have these efforts been in place? (A)

4. Who can receive services from these programs/efforts? (A)

5. What are the strengths of these efforts? (A and possibly other Dimensions)

6. What are the weaknesses of these efforts? (A and possibly other Dimensions)

7. What type of plans are in place to continue these services? (A)

8. How is evaluation data being used to develop new efforts? (A)

9. Please describe any policies that are in place in your community that address or support the prevention of problem gambling. (A)

10. How long have these policies been in place? (A)

11. In your opinion, using a scale from 1 to 10, how aware is the community of these efforts, program activities or policies, with one being not at all and ten being a great deal. Please explain your rating. (B)

12. Please explain what you believe that the community knows about the efforts, such as, purpose, what services do they offer, how to access the services. (B)

13. Are there community members who are involved in sharing information about activities or efforts? Please explain. (B)

**C. LEADERSHIP (includes appointed leaders and influential community members)**

14. In your opinion, using a scale from 1-10, how much of a priority is problem gambling to the leadership in your community with one being not at all and ten being a high priority? Please explain your rating.

15. How do the “leaders” in your community support and promote problem gambling efforts, activities or events? (prompt: on committees, attend events, speak on issue in public) Please explain.

16. Would the leadership support additional efforts? Please explain.

\*\*If needed could request clarification of how interviewee defines “leadership”.

**D. COMMUNITY CLIMATE**

17. Describe your community.

18. What is the community’s attitude about problem gambling?

19. How supportive or involved is the community in the prevention of problem gambling? Please explain.

**E. KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THE PROBLEM**

20. In your community, what type of information is available regarding problem gambling issues?

21. How knowledgeable are community members about problem gambling issues? Such as, signs, symptoms and local data, etc. Please explain.

22. What local data on problem gambling is available in your community?

23. How do people obtain this information in your community?

**F. RESOURCES FOR PREVENTION EFFORTS (time, money, people, space, etc.)**

24. What is the community’s attitude about supporting efforts, such as people volunteering time, making financial donations, and providing meeting space?

25. Are you aware of any proposals or action plans that have been written to support problem gambling in your community? If yes, please explain.

26. What type(s) of evaluation is being conducted on efforts?

27. Do you have any additional comments?

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS (not part of the scoring process)**

**Additional Local Questions (optional)**