#### Panel Discussion

# Addressing Risky Behaviors in Older Adults: Gambling Awareness

Susan D. McLaughlin, M.P.A., C.P.S., Prevention Services Coordinator

DMHAS Problem Gambling Services

Susan.McLaughlin@ct.gov

Successful Aging: The Intersection of Physical & Behavioral Health
DMHAS/DORS/SUA Conference, March 22, 2019
Masonicare at Ashlar Village











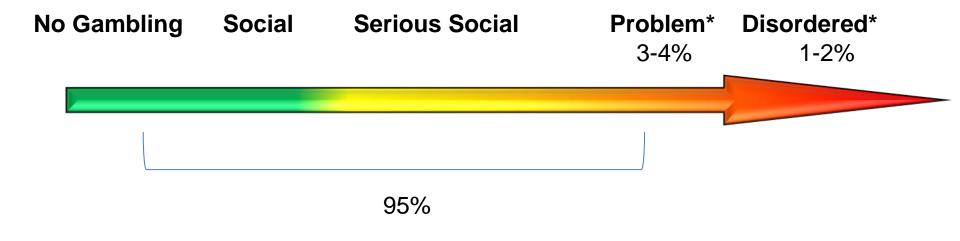








# The Gambling Continuum



- ❖ SA/MH increase 10x's
- Department of Correction/Criminal Justice population increase 20x's



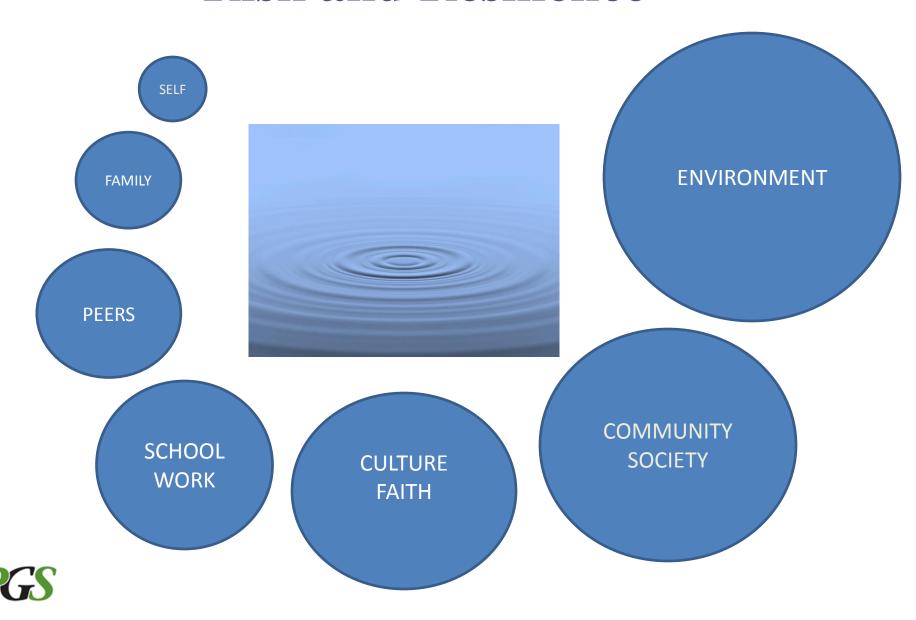


### Warning Signs

- Where's the food?
- Behind in bills
- Gambling paraphernalia (scratch tickets, casino mailings, cards, dice, sports pages...)
- Frequent visits to the casino, convenience store, OTB.
- Talks about gambling wins
- Preoccupation

- Tolerance
- Withdrawal
- Loss of control
- Chasing losses
- Lies to conceal the extent of involvement with gambling.
- Jeopardized or lost a significant relationship, job, educational or career opportunity because of gambling.
- Bailouts (relying on others to provide money to relieve desperate financial situations caused by gambling).

### Risk and Resilience



# Three Important Messages for Everyone

- 1. Gambling is not a risk-free activity.
- 2. Know how to keep the problem out of gambling.
- Help is available for people with gambling problems, and persons affected.

#### **KEEP GAMBLING SAFE & AFFORDABLE**

Set a limit on time & money and stick to it.

<u>Learn</u> how games work. <u>Balance</u> gambling with other leisure activities.

**Problem Gambling Toll-Free HELPLINE: 1-888-789-7777** 

#### **KEEP THE PROBLEM OUT OF GAMBLING**

- Gamble with limits on time, frequency, and duration.
- Gamble in a social setting with others, not alone, & with money you can afford to lose.

Helpline: 1-888-789-7777

www.ct.gov/dmhas/pgs



### Older Adults

### Women

### People in Recovery

#### **PGS Prevention Partners**

> Congregational Assistance Program (CAP):

6 hours training MH/SA/Suicide/GA & Local Supports for Faith Communities/Community Organizations

Regional Gambling Awareness Teams:

Prevention, TX, Recovery, Industry, Community members. Data, resource management, CAP coordination.

### More PGS Prevention Partners

- MH/SA TX: Disordered Gambling Integration
- ➤ MH/SA Recovery Communities
- Special Populations: Caribe Youth/Family Athletic League; AAPI
- ➤ G-FACT: Gambling Awareness for All Ct
- Partnership for Responsible Gambling: Ct Lottery, Ct Council on Problem Gambling

#### **Point of Contact for Regional Gambling Awareness Teams**

Region 1: Ingrid Gillespie, Executive Director, Communities4Action <a href="mailto:igillespie@communities4action.org">igillespie@communities4action.org</a>

Region 2: Pam Mautte, Divisional Director, BH Care <a href="mailto:Pmautte@bhcare.org">Pmautte@bhcare.org</a>

Region 3: Michele Devine, Executive Director, SERAC <a href="mailto:ct.task.force@sbcglobal.net">ct.task.force@sbcglobal.net</a>

Region 4: Marcia DuFore, Executive Director, NCRMHB mdufore@ncrmhb.org

Region 5: Allison Fulton, Executive Director, HVCASA allison.fulton@hvcasa.org

## CT DMHAS Problem Gambling Services Treatment & Prevention

www.ct.gov/dmhas/pgs

# Problem Gambling Helpline (888) 789-7777

PG Live Chat: www.problemgambling.org;

Click on Chat or Text "CTGAMB" to 53342

#### **National Council on Problem Gambling**

www.ncpgambling.org

Problem Gambling Awareness Month Tool Kit, NCPG Prevention Committee

### **Problem Gambling Services**

"To provide a *comprehensive* network of consumer-related problem gambling recovery services...to foster an environment throughout the state that promotes informed choices around gambling behavior."

## Gambling is... Risking money or material goods on an event with an uncertain outcome in the hope of winning additional money &/or material goods.