



**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services  
Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services**

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Beverly Eaves Perdue, Governor  
Lanier M. Cansler, Secretary

Steven Jordan, Director

**Memo to:** County Director of Department of Social Services, Program Administrators, Managers and Supervisors  
**From:** Jon Rayle, NC Problem Gambling Prevention Coordinator  
**Date:** March 15, 2011  
**Re:** Introduction to the North Carolina Problem Gambling Prevention Program

I would like to introduce you to the North Carolina Problem Gambling Program (NCPGP), which is administered through the Division of MH/DD/SAS. The NCPGP provides a valuable service for individuals and families across North Carolina. Our goal is to share this information with the public in a collaborative manner so that it can be utilized and disseminated to those in need of this resource.

Just as some people can become addicted to drugs or alcohol; it is possible for a person to become obsessed with an uncontrollable urge to gamble. The impact of this addiction is much greater than the obvious financial losses that can result from repeated gambling. The long-term result is a steady deterioration of the mental and physical health of both the gambler and their family.

Problem gambling affects nearly 2.1% (NC BRFSS 2008) of North Carolina adults. The North Carolina Problem Gambling Program provides prevention and education, outreach and treatment services for problem gamblers and their family members. **Services are free, confidential and available 24/7 through our toll-free Helpline Number: 1-877-718-5543.** All treatment services are provided by a master's level licensed clinician that has received special training in problem gambling. These services can be provided both face-to-face or by phone in both English and Spanish.

I have enclosed a supply of our bilingual, two-sided rack cards as well as a number of promotional pens from the North Carolina Problem Gambling Program for display and distribution to the public. For further information about the program or for suggestions on how to incorporate prevention and education efforts in your county, please contact me at the address and numbers below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jon Rayle".

Jon Rayle

[www.morethanagamenc.com](http://www.morethanagamenc.com)

1-877-718-5543 (Toll free Helpline)

[jon.rayle@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:jon.rayle@dhhs.nc.gov)

919-800-8482 (cell)

Enclosure

