

Get Out and Stay Out:

A Prerelease Program for Incarcerated Female Gamblers

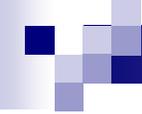
Jeffrey Marotta, Ph.D.

Oregon Department of Human Services

&

Peter Walsh, M.A.

Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare



This project was made possible through the cooperation and sponsorship of Oregon:

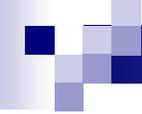
Department of Human Services
&
Department of Corrections

Special appreciation is provided to the administration and staff of:

Coffee Creek Correctional Facility

&

Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare Gambling Treatment Program



Background

- In Oregon, 40% of gambling treatment clients report illegal behavior related to their gambling.
- Research suggests significant numbers of inmates have problems related to gambling.
- Problem gambling interventions within correctional facilities are very rare.
- The current project was first implemented in March 2004. Findings presented in this report are preliminary.

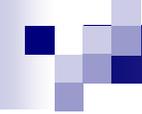
Coffee Creek Correctional Facility





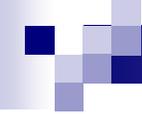
Project Objectives

- Assess problem gambling prevalence among Oregon's incarcerated females
- Examine the relationship between gambling and criminal offending
- Determine demand for PG services among inmates
- Develop and evaluate problem gambling intervention for use within correctional facilities
- Reduce re-incarceration



Development Process

1. Form project partnerships between:
 - Department of Corrections
 - Department of Human Services
 - Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare
 - Herbert & Louis, LLC
2. Develop service materials and protocols
3. Phase-in implementation



Challenges

- Crossing cultures
 - Prison culture, agency cultures, mixed inmate populations
- Logistical considerations when working within a correctional facility
- Special data collection challenges



Measurement Tools

- Problem Gambling Screen - Incarcerated
 - Adapted from Anderson (1999)
 - SOGS, demographics, illegal activity inventory
- Pre-Post Intervention Questionnaire
 - Program satisfaction, risk and signs knowledge, knowledge of where to get help
- 12 & 24 month follow-up
 - Survey tool (self-report)
 - Criminal history update (public records)

Preliminary Survey Findings

Pre-release Group N=74

- 30% problem or pathological gambler
 - 20% probable pathological gambler (SOGS 5+)
 - 10% problem gambler (SOGS 3 or 4)
 - 86% reported crimes related to gambling
- 19% reported to have a household member with gambling problem
- 1% previously received help for PG
- 23% signed up for PG intervention

Preliminary Survey Findings

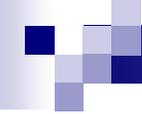
Early-release Group N=46

- 22% problem or pathological gambler
 - 20% probable pathological gambler
 - 2% problem gambler
 - 90% reported crimes related to gambling
- 7% previously received help for PG
- 24% signed up for PG intervention



Survey Comments by Inmates

- “I am so grateful this program has come to Coffee Creek – I need it desperately.”
- “The money I got from selling drugs went for more dope and for the machines.”
- “I have gambled so that I didn’t have to deal with my problem and because I liked it and still do.”
- “I sold drugs to support my video poker habit.”
- “90% of my crimes were due to gambling, worse addiction I've ever had.”



GEAR - Inmate Intervention

- Adapted from the Gambling Evaluation And Reduction (GEAR) Program that serves general Oregon population
 - Four 90 minute small-group psycho-educational classes
 - Self-change guide utilizing cognitive-behavioral techniques

EAR Project
RSERVICES

COPY

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QUALITY POLICY

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or

to commit a crime either at the program or against any person;
harm himself/herself;
elder abuse or neglect. Under state law, such suspicions must be
authorities.

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Becoming A Winner: Defeating Problem Gambling

A Gambling Self-Help Manual

Oregon Minimal Intervention Program for Problem
Gamblers - Demonstration Project



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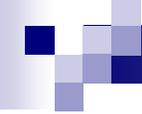
Intervention Observations

- Excellent class participation
- Action Cycle exercise very useful as grounding and review tool
- More popular than expected among inmates with problem gambling family member
- Initial pre-post evaluation results encouraging
- Evaluation indicates high program satisfaction



Preliminary Findings Summary

- 20% - 30% of Oregon female criminal offenders have a history of problem gambling
- Criminal activity linked to gambling
- Inmates with history of PG are receptive to PG intervention services
- Intervention effectiveness promising



Conclusion

- There appears to be need and demand for problem gambling interventions within female correctional facilities.
- This report is preliminary and further work is needed to validate initial findings and determine intervention effectiveness.

For more information contact:

Jeffrey Marotta, PhD
Problem Gambling Services Manager
Oregon Department of Human Services

503-945-9709

Jeffrey.j.marotta@state.or.us

Peter Walsh, MA, NCC, CGAC
Gambling Treatment Program Manager
Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare

(503) 872-0151

Pwalsh@cascadiabhc.org