



News Release

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March is Arizona Problem Gambling Awareness Month

ADG Division of Problem Gambling hosts 13th Annual Symposium to bridge the gap from awareness to recovery

PHOENIX – Governor Doug Ducey has declared March as Arizona Problem Gambling Awareness Month to foster understanding and showcase the resources the State of Arizona and Tribes make possible for people and families in need. While most adults who choose to gamble are able to do so responsibly, for some, gambling can have negative effects on health, finances and relationships.

The Arizona Department of Gaming Division of Problem Gambling is hosting its 13th Annual Symposium to increase public awareness of problem gambling and available prevention, treatment and recovery services:

- WHAT: 13th Annual Symposium: "Bridging the Gap from Awareness to Recovery"
- WHEN: Monday, March 4, 2019, 8:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. MST
- WHERE: Black Canyon Conference Center, 940 North 25th Ave., Phoenix, AZ. 85021
- WHO: Everyone, especially professionals and students working in or studying the helping professions
- REGISTER: Online at <https://t.co/Vfo0OF56YE> or by phone at (480) 247-2454 (registration includes lunch and a certificate of completion for continuing education credits – up to six)

This year's event will feature Dr. Daniel A. Kaufmann discussing gaming psychology and triggers, and Jeffrey P. Wasserman, who will share his personal recovery journey and review problem gambling in relation to the criminal justice system.

"Gambling addiction has the potential to destroy lives - and it's an issue that needs to be taken seriously," said Governor Ducey. "I thank the Arizona Lottery, Department of Gaming, and Arizona's Indian gaming organizations for their dedication to combat problem gambling. I encourage anyone who struggles with this addiction to seek professional help and a fresh start."

"Our biggest challenge in the field of problem gambling services is the lack of screening necessary to connect those in need with the right resources to help them get their lives back on track," said Ted Vogt, Director, Arizona Department of Gaming. Our Annual Symposium helps us face this challenge by providing essential education to professionals and the public, and a forum for an open dialogue and information exchange."

"The Arizona Lottery and our more than 3,000 retailers are proud to sponsor the Arizona Department of Gaming's Problem Gambling Symposium and to help raise awareness about this issue throughout the month of March," said Gregg Edgar, Executive Director of the Arizona Lottery. "By getting the word out through messaging at our retailers, located across the state, we are doing our small part to assist those who suffer from this condition get the help that they need."

Learn more at www.problemgambling.az.gov.

- More -

GOVERNOR DOUGLAS A. DUCEY

STATE OF ARIZONA
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PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, many forms of legalized gaming exist in Arizona, including the Arizona Lottery, Indian Gaming, pari-mutuel racing, bingo, charitable gambling, amusement gambling, and social gambling; and

WHEREAS, Arizona's Indian gaming provides substantial funds for problem gambling programs throughout the State; and

WHEREAS, the Arizona Department of Gaming's Division of Problem Gambling administers problem gambling funds to provide and support effective problem gambling prevention, education, and treatment programs throughout Arizona; and

WHEREAS, since 1998, the Arizona Lottery has had a formal statewide responsible gambling program; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 1999, the Arizona Legislature has continuously appropriated Arizona Lottery revenues to be used specifically for problem gambling programs; and

WHEREAS, the Arizona Council on Compulsive Gambling, Inc., an Arizona nonprofit, had provided problem gambling, education, awareness, and prevention programs in Arizona since 1994; and

WHEREAS, the National Council on Problem Gambling and the Association of Problem Gambling Services Administrators have declared the month of March as National Problem Gambling Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, through programming and education, potential, and existing gambling related problems can be addressed by individuals, organizations, and state and tribal governments.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim March 2019 as

ARIZONA PROBLEM GAMBLING AWARENESS MONTH



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona

Douglas A. Ducey
GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this twenty-third day of January in the year Two Thousand and Nineteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Third

ATTEST:

[Signature]
SECRETARY OF STATE

About ADG

Established by the Arizona State Legislature in 1995, ADG is the state regulatory agency for [tribal gaming](#), [pari-mutuel racing and wagering](#), and [boxing and mixed martial arts](#). ADG also provides and supports education, prevention and treatment programs for people and families affected by problem gambling through its [Division of Problem Gambling](#) and 24-hour confidential helpline, 1-800-NEXT-STEP.

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