

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY ON AGING

Founded in 1954, the American Society on Aging is the largest organization of professionals in the field of aging. Our resources, publications, and educational opportunities are geared to enhance the knowledge and skills of people working with older adults and their families. The membership of ASA is a multidisciplinary array of professionals who are concerned with the physical, emotional, social, economic and spiritual aspects of aging. They range from practitioners, educators, administrators, policymakers, business people, researchers, students, and more.

ASA members, other professionals, and paraprofessionals in the field of aging can take advantage of a variety of education and training programs:

- ❖ Annual Joint Conference of ASA and the National Council on the Aging
- ❖ Autumn Series on Aging
- ❖ Web seminars
- ❖ Computer-based training

Members receive *Generations*, a quarterly journal, and *Aging Today*, a bimonthly newspaper, both of which examine research findings, events, and issues in the field. ASA Connection, our monthly e-newsletter provides timely announcements, new briefs, articles, and more.

American Society on Aging
833 Market Street, Suite 511
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Problem Gambling and Older Adults
FREE Workshops for professionals. CEUs available.



833 Market Street, Suite 511
San Francisco, CA 94103-1824

PROBLEM GAMBLING AND OLDER ADULTS

FREE TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



Sponsored by:

American Society on Aging
(under contract to the National Asian
Pacific American Families Against
Substance Abuse, with funding from
the Office of Problem Gambling of the
California Department of
Alcohol & Drug Programs)

FACTS ABOUT PROBLEM GAMBLING AND OLDER ADULTS

- ❖ An estimated 65% of the \$3.7 billion profit by Atlantic City casinos in 1997 came from the pockets of people over 60 (New Jersey Helpline).
- ❖ Problem gambling among older adults has devastating results on lives, including loss of a lifetime of saved income, and suicide.
- ❖ Americans gamble more each year than they spend on groceries (\$600B+ annually) (US Bureau of the Census, 1997).
- ❖ Older adults now form the largest group of annual visitors to Las Vegas (The Las Vegas Convention and Visitor's Authority).
- ❖ Between 1999 & 2003, calls to California problem gambling hotlines from older adults increased 25% (California Council on Problem Gambling).
- ❖ Between 1975 and 1998, the over - 65 age group experienced the greatest increase in gambling, both for lifetime (from 35% to 80%) and for past-year (from 23% to 50%) (Gambling Impact and Behavior Study, 1999).



DEFINITION OF PROBLEM GAMBLING

Problem Gambling refers to gambling that significantly interferes with a person's basic occupational, interpersonal, and financial functioning. (Gambling in the Golden State, 1998 Forward)

Pathological gambling is the most severe form of problem gambling and is classified as a mental health disorder with many similarities to drug abuse (Ibid.).

TRAINING OBJECTIVES

- ❖ To train non-profit organizations, and government agency personnel on older adult problem gambling prevention.
- ❖ To provide information on treatment resources.
- ❖ To help these professionals recognize the signs of problem gambling.
- ❖ To learn about problem gambling research, and apply it to program development.
- ❖ To develop strategies that address responsible gambling in older adults.

CONTINUING EDUCATION UNITS

This training qualifies as five hours of continuing education credit for Alcohol/Drug Abuse Counselors, Mental Health Professionals/Social Workers (satisfies CA requirement for Aging and Long Term Care), Certified Counselors, Nurses, Nursing Home Administrators and Care/Case Managers, for a fee of \$15. (Please do not pay in advance. Application forms are available at the session.)

CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE

A certificate of attendance is available for \$10. (Please do not pay in advance. Application forms are available at the session.)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, OR TO SCHEDULE A TRAINING:

By mail:

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Attention: Katherine Aguas-Aclan
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San Francisco, CA 94103

By Fax:

(415) 974-0300

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