



January 30, 2023

The Honorable Dafna Michaelson Jenet Chair, Colorado House of Representatives, Public and Behavioral Health and Human Services

The Honorable Rhonda Fields Chair, Colorado Senate Health and Human Services Committee

Representative Michaelson Jenet and Senator Fields:

The Behavioral Health Administration in response to reporting requirements set forth in Section 44-30-1301(2)(b)(II) C.R.S., respectfully submits the attached Gambling Addiction Program Report.

“Notwithstanding section 24-1-136 (11)(a)(I), by January 1, 2009, and by each January 1 thereafter, the Behavioral Health Administration shall submit a report to the health and human services committees of the senate and house of representatives, or their successor committees, regarding the grant program. The report shall detail the following information for the fiscal year in which the report is submitted:

- A. The amount of money allocated to the gambling addiction account pursuant to subsection (1) of this section;*
- B. The number of grant applications received and the total amount of grant money requested by grant applicants;*
- C. The total amount of money in the gambling addiction account that was awarded as grants to applicants; and*
- D. The entities or programs that received grants and the amount of grant money each grant recipient received”*

If you have any questions, please contact Ryan Templeton, Policy and External Affairs Division Director, by phone at 720-765-7957 or by email at ryan.templeton@state.co.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Morgan Medlock'.

Morgan Medlock, MD, MDiv, MPH
Commissioner, Behavioral Health Administration

Gambling Addiction Program - Legislative Report

C.R.S. 44-30-1301(2)(b)(II)

Fiscal Year 2022

July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022

Submitted January 30, 2023

Introduction

The following report provides a brief overview on the Colorado Gambling Addiction Program for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-2022. The Colorado Department of Human Services, Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) respectfully submits this FY 2021-22 report titled "Gambling Addiction Program Legislative Report" in compliance with Colorado Revised Statute 44-30-1301(2)(b)(II):

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- A. The amount of money allocated to the gambling addiction account pursuant to subsection (1) of this section;*
- B. The number of grant applications received and the total amount of grant money requested by grant applicants;*
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- D. The entities or programs that received grants and the amount of grant money each grant recipient received*

Gambling Addiction Program

A. Amount of money allocated to the gambling addiction account

For state Fiscal Year 2021 -2022, Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS), Office of Behavioral Health (OBH)¹ (transitioned to the Behavioral Health

¹ The Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) is a new cabinet member-led entity within the State of Colorado, housed within the Department of Human Services (CDHS), and is designed to be the single entity responsible for driving coordination and collaboration across state agencies to address behavioral health needs. The Office of Behavioral Health (OBH) moved within CDHS and was recently rebranded as the Office of Civil and Forensic Mental Health (OCFMH). The community health programs, including the Gambling Addiction Program, formerly managed under OBH moved to the BHA when the BHA launched on July 1, 2022.

Administration on July 1, 2022) was awarded state funds available in the sports betting fund created in C.R.S. 44-30-1509(2). The Colorado Limited Gaming Control Commission (CLGCC) approved and distributed \$130,000 to the OBH in September 2021 to be used as follows:

(I) Thirty thousand dollars for the operation of a crisis hotline for gamblers by Rocky Mountain Crisis Partners or its successor organization;

The Office of Behavioral Health awarded the Problem Gambling Coalition of Colorado (PGCC) as the contractor for these funds effective 3/28/22 - 6/30/22. The previous contractor, Rocky Mountain Crisis Partners, ended their contract for the gambling helpline. Via a procurement process per state guidelines, PGCC began serving as the contractor in May 2021. The PGCC utilized a third party vendor for the contract of managing the Problem Gambling Helpline for Colorado. The vendor, Louisiana Association on Compulsive Gambling, answered the gambling helpline calls for Colorado and referred callers to gambling addiction services in Colorado. The total amount spent for the gambling helpline was \$14,336 (awarded \$15,000 for March-June due to the shortened timeframe):

- \$6,400 to the Louisiana Problem Gambling for the monthly management of the gambling helpline,
- \$3,000 for training to maintain the gambling helpline, and
- \$4,936 for the promotion, marketing, and education of the gambling helpline through online, and printed materials.

(II) One hundred thousand dollars for prevention, education, treatment, and workforce development by, and including the payment of salaries of, counselors certified in the treatment of gambling disorders.

The Office of Behavioral Health awarded the Problem Gambling Coalition of Colorado (PGCC) as the contractor for these funds effective 3/28/22 - 6/30/22. For this time frame, the PGCC spent \$87,772 (awarded \$97,680) for the prevention, education, treatment, and workforce support for problem gambling services in Colorado, broken down as follows:

- A 4-part webinar series totaling \$6,286 on problem gambling and sports betting
- Marketing and education totaling \$44,217 on the problem gambling program services via printed and online materials, as well as billboards
- Program management, including administrative support totaling \$26,540
- Training for individuals interested in becoming problem gambler counselors, totaling \$6,962
- One awarded grant application totaling \$3,767 for an individual to become nationally certified as a problem gambling counselor

B. Number of grant applications received and the total amount of grant money requested

The PGCC received one grant application and awarded one individual the amount of \$3,767 to become nationally certified as a problem gambling counselor. This includes the costs for training and to take the national exam, as well as supervision hours.

C. Total amount of money in the gambling addiction account that was awarded as grants

The PGCC provided grant funding to seven individuals, totaling \$6,962, for specific gambling addiction training. These individuals participated in online training programs and attended conferences. This serves as a gateway for people to consider becoming a nationally certified problem gambling counselor.

D. Entities or programs that received grants

During the 3/28/22 - 6/30/22 timeframe, no entities or programs requested or received grant reimbursement for gambling specific treatment services. The PGCC contacted entities and programs in Colorado for the prevention, education, treatment, and workforce support for problem gambling services through marketing of online services, social media, and billboards to inform the public of the grants available for treatment of problem gambling.