

# Lane County Problem Gambling Advisory Committee (PGAC)

## Meeting Minutes: January 13, 2009

*Working Mission: "To reduce the negative effects of gambling in Lane County communities through coordinating effective prevention strategies and linking people to effective resources."*

*In attendance: Laura Hammond, Michel Savage, Michelle Lowery, Pat Kellison, Ronda Hatefi (chair), Julie Hynes (staff support).*

### ⇒ **Smoke-free law and video lottery retailers – partnership with Tobacco Free Lane County**

Laura Hammond, Lane County's tobacco prevention coordinator, spoke to the group about the new Smokefree Workplace Law, which was implemented on January 1. The law affects all bars, restaurants, delis, bingo halls, and bowling centers across the state. The only exemptions are smoke shops, cigar bars, and tribal casinos. The Smokefree law not only applies to within business, but within 10 feet of ALL entrances.

PGAC members can partner with Tobacco Free Lane County in checking compliance of local video lottery retailers. Laura provided a list of all video lottery retailers in Lane County areas outside of Eugene. Anyone can file a complaint confidentially by calling 1.866.621.6107 or online at [www.healthoregon.org/smokefree](http://www.healthoregon.org/smokefree).

Pat also wondered about the percentage of non-lottery revenues required of all lottery retailers, and whether the video lottery retailers would be able to stay in compliance (much of 'non-lottery' revenue has been made up of cigarette sales in the past). The group will ask the Lottery for lottery revenues & non-lottery percentages at the end of this fiscal year to review compliance.

### ⇒ **Three Rivers Casino - alcohol on gaming floor** (Julie & Michelle Lowery)

Julie reviewed the new policy of Three Rivers Casino (TRC) to begin serving alcohol on the gaming floor. The policy allows for two drinks per person per hour, from 7am-2am. TRC is the second casino in Oregon to implement such a policy (Seven Feathers implemented the policy shortly before TRC). Julie and Michelle Lowery, Lane County's underage drinking prevention coordinator, have been in contact with Doug Barrett, the CTSLUSI (tribes) alcohol/drug prevention coordinator, who is willing to meet to discuss potential mitigations to this issue. Michelle has also been in touch with the local OLCC representative Christian Hoffman. Julie has been in touch with MADD, which is also interested in the issue due to the potential increase of drunk driving incidents as a result of this policy.

Members had the following questions:

- ☑ What is the cost, if any, of the alcoholic beverages?
- ☑ Who will be monitoring enforcement of the two drinks per hour policy, and how will it be enforced?
- ☑ Will there be extra security in & outside of the casino?
- ☑ What are the employee opinions of the policy? How will employees be protected from alcohol-related incidents on the casino floor?
- ☑ How, if at all, will ID checks change from the current policy?

Next step: Michelle Lowery & Julie will convene a meeting with Doug Barrett from the tribes & OLCC representative Christian Hoffman to discuss ways to mitigate this issue. Any members interested in taking part in this or future meetings may contact Julie.

⇒ **Planning local efforts for Problem Gambling Awareness Week -- March 1-7, 2009** (task list & timelines)

Please see the workplan on the following pages for plans, assignments & timelines

**Next meeting *\*\*note location change\*\****  
**Tuesday, February 3 from 3:30-5pm at Lane County Health & Human Services**  
**meeting room (125 E. 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Eugene)**  
**Map/directions at <http://www.lanecounty.org/prevention/contact.htm>**

***Lane County Problem Gambling Advisory Committee Goals:***

1. Increase community awareness about the effects of problem gambling, and promote awareness that problem gambling is a preventable and treatable public health problem.
2. Reduce gambling behavior among youth by addressing the risk factors that may increase the risk of problem gambling and promoting the protective factors that may minimize the risk of problem gambling.
3. Build and maintain partnerships of individuals, agencies, and community groups to help support community approach to problem gambling prevention.

**2009 Oregon Problem Gambling Awareness Week (OPGAW)  
March 1-7, 2009 | Lane County Task List and Timelines**

| <b>What</b>                                   | <b>Who</b>              | <b>By When</b>          | <b>Comments</b>   |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| <b>Media:</b><br>Guest editorial              | Pat                     | Draft by Feb. 3 meeting | <b>Pat</b> sharing her story of recovery; hope and help. To be sent out to R-G mid-February for editorial review. We will request to publish the week of OPGAW. |
| <b>Media:</b><br>press release/media advisory | Julie                   | Draft by Feb. 3 meeting | Final advisory to go out March 2.<br>Media advisory re: OPGAW rally at UO (TBA).  |
| <b>Media:</b><br>News story                   | Michel                  | Draft by Feb. 3 meeting | <b>Michel</b> contacting various media outlets about his story. Plans on contacting media all at once (timing TBA).   |
| <b>Ribbon week:</b><br>cards w/helpline #     | Julie                   | Feb. 3 meeting          | <b>Julie</b> to make & print 250 cards for hope/help ribbons with help line #.  |
| <b>Ribbon week:</b><br>ribbon making          | Ronda                   | March 1                 | <b>Ronda</b> to make 200-250 green/white ribbons.   |
| <b>Presentations:</b>                         | Julie—UO seminar        | Feb. 14-15              | UO Seminar: Two-day course on problem gambling. <b>Pat, Ronda, &amp; Michel</b> to be on guest panel from 12:30-2:00pm on Feb. 15                               |
|   | Julie/Michele: Training | March 20                | Training: 4 hour training for MH & addictions providers (CEUs provided)   |

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| What          | Who                           | By When                  | Comments  |
|---------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Poster search | Julie                         | Through March            | Julie has sent poster contest materials and calendars to all 30+ middle schools in Lane County.   |
| Website       | Julie                         | By March 1               | <a href="http://www.lanecounty.org/prevention/gambling">www.lanecounty.org/prevention/gambling</a> to feature information about OPGAW, Hope and Help, and prevention/treatment efforts in Lane County.  |
| Rally         | ALL;<br>Ronda<br>Julie<br>Pat | March 3 10:00am<br>(TBA) | Location (pending approval) at UO's EMU.<br>Ronda to get homing doves for release to symbolize release of addiction.<br>Julie contacting Navit Parker, UO student project coordinator, re: planning & publicity to students.<br>Julie contacting Emergence re: publicizing & inviting recovering gamblers & family members.<br>Pat to share with her women's group.<br>Julie to develop media advisory re: event. |
| Parents:      | Julie                         | February                 | Julie to connect with Family Resource Centers, who provide Strengthening Families parenting programs and other parenting programs; distribute materials & information to parents about problem gambling & awareness.  |