

## HURRICANE IRMA IS NO MATCH FOR THE FCCG!

Despite sustained winds of over 140 miles per hour, more than a foot of rain, and nearly 75% of the state without power, the Florida Council on Compulsive Gambling remained available 24/7 throughout Hurricane Irma to offer assistance to those in need of help for problem gambling. The dedicated Specialists of the FCCG worked together to ensure adequate phone coverage and all referrals were accessible, all while making sure their own families were safe and secure.

**GREAT JOB FCCG!**

**If you or someone you know has a gambling problem, call**

**1-888-ADMIT-IT**  
**(236-4848)**

**Live Chat at**  
**[www.gamblinghelp.org](http://www.gamblinghelp.org)**

**Text to**  
**321-978-0555**

**Email to**  
**[fccg@gamblinghelp.org](mailto:fccg@gamblinghelp.org)**

## FLORIDA IS IN RECOVERY MODE AND WE ARE HERE TO HELP!

During the month of September nearly all Floridians were impacted by Hurricane Irma, a category 4 storm, which brought torrential rain and devastating winds. Now that the storm has passed, many people are in the process of rebuilding their homes and in some cases their lives.

September is also National Recovery month, aimed at bringing awareness to those in recovery from any condition. The Florida Council on Compulsive Gambling (FCCG) focuses its attention on helping those who are affected by problem gambling. This much needed service is provided in a variety of ways, including self-help groups, literature, counseling, and much more, all at no cost.

Although Problem Gambling is not as publicized as other addictions, such as alcohol or substance abuse, the most recent prevalence studies show that nearly 200,000 Floridians are currently problem gamblers, while approximately 700,000 are at-risk for developing a problem. Additionally, no other addiction has as high a suicide rate as gambling. One in five of those suffering from a gambling problem will attempt suicide.

The FCCG Recovery Path program offers one-on-one counseling to any Floridian affected by problem gambling, including loved ones, regardless of their ability to pay. This service is provided in all areas of the state by mental health professionals that are certified in gambling addiction. The FCCG works with these professionals ongoing to ensure they receive updated training on problem gambling related topics and are providing the best possible service for those in need.

