

FCCG Background

- The Florida Council on Compulsive Gambling, Inc. (FCCG) is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) independent corporation, with a primary mission to:
 - ✓ Increase public awareness regarding the risks and consequences associated with gambling;
 - ✓ Provide referral assistance to problem gamblers, their families and others adversely affected;
 - ✓ Advocate for problem gambling programs, services and other supports to address population-specific needs.
- The FCCG operates a 24-hour confidential and multilingual information and crisis Problem Gambling HelpLine service, 888-ADMIT-IT, where problem gambling information, literature, supportive intervention, treatment referrals, resources, and a breadth of related supports are provided to those in need, 24 hours per day, 365 days of the year.
- In addition to operating the HelpLine, the FCCG also provides expert training for gambling industry operators, mental health treatment providers, and others interested in reducing gambling-related harms, to assure gamblers and their families, and those adversely affected, a one-stop resource where they can obtain the help needed to recover from a gambling disorder and resume a healthier lifestyle.
- The FCCG maintains a neutral stance on the issue of legalized gambling while also seeking to assist citizens in need of problem gambling specific supports.

The FCCG furnishes the following Florida problem gambling specific services:

- Operates the statewide toll-free confidential and multilingual 24-hour HelpLine (available via text: 321-978-0555; live chat: www.gamblinghelp.org; social media: Facebook/Twitter/YouTube/Pinterest)
- The FCCG has developed an online problem gambling supports program titled “*Online Program for Problem Gamblers (OPPG)*.” For those seeking on-demand options, or who lack insurance, or the ability to pay for in person counseling services, the 888-ADMIT-IT HelpLine provides problem gamblers with immediate access to interactive problem gambling supports, through the FCCG’s *OPPG*. It includes videos, readings, and exercises that cover topics such as understanding perspectives on problem gambling including the neurosciences, strategies to address shame, boredom, and stress, as well as other helpful approaches for reducing problem gambling behavior. The FCCG’s *OPPG* also includes a no-cost assessment, with feedback on your results provided by a licensed mental health professional.
- Offers problem gambling mental health referral services provided by licensed, certified gambling addiction professionals
- Provides Responsible Gaming & Player Protection Programming (RGPPP) for participating Florida gaming facilities (includes employee training, responsible gaming messaging, signage featuring the helpline and additional ongoing outreach efforts)
- Connects problem gamblers/loved ones with the recovery community through its *Peer Connect Program*
- Educates mental health, addiction, medical, and other health care professionals through training programs to identify/assess/treat problem gambling
- Develops targeted prevention, education and outreach programs (e.g. adolescents, older adults, etc.) and facilitates statewide outreach through the establishment of community educators and partnerships
- Designs educational/training programs for governmental agencies, community organizations, educators, and others
- Represents Florida residents on gambling-related issues before local, state and federal policy makers
- Works with legal and judicial entities, as well as law enforcement on gambling related cases
- Sponsors/conducts research on gambling addiction impacts
- Offers an *Impaired Professionals Program* that provides self-help/treatment options in non-public settings
- Oversees a *Statewide Speakers Bureau* which conducts diverse presentations in varying environments

The FCCG advocates on behalf of the public on issues relating to problem gambling, provides programs and resources to individuals in need of help for a gambling problem, and trains health care professionals to assess and treat this population. The FCCG is the designated Florida affiliate of the National Council on Problem Gambling. Affiliate Members serve as the official representatives of the NCPG in their respective states, responding to all calls for help with a gambling problem received through the national helpline network, and work cooperatively on issues of importance.

24-Hour HelpLine: 1-888-ADMIT-IT (236-4848)

Text: 321-978-0555

**E-mail fccg@gamblinghelp.org
www.gamblinghelp.org**

