

SUMMER IS HERE....AND SO IS THE RISK FOR PROBLEM GAMBLING AMONG YOUTH

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A RECENT SUCCESS

After a training event facilitated by the FCCG, we were approached by an employee whom realized they were a problem gambler. Because they played Bingo, they did not consider this to be a problem, however the increased playing and depression it was causing after loses were negatively impacting their daily life. After incurring over \$12,000 in debt, they reached out to [888 ADMIT IT](#) for help. Now they are enrolled in the FCCG's Recovery Path Program which offers little to no cost private counseling for anyone affected by a gambling addiction.

ARE YOU A SUMMER CAMP, LIBRARY, OR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM?

DID YOU KNOW THAT THE FCCG PROVIDES FREE AGE-SPECIFIC EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL ON PROBLEM GAMBLING AND MAKING SMART FINANCIAL DECISIONS?

CONTACT US TODAY!



DO YOU KNOW HOW YOUR KIDS ARE SPENDING THEIR SUMMER?

As the school year ends for students of all ages, the excitement of what the summer will bring begins! However, for some children, they will have their first exposure to gambling.

As more parents are in the workforce now than ever, the summer months bring lots of free time for those not involved in structured activities. It is important that not only parents, but teachers, counselors, and all adults that interact with children, become aware of potential signs that youth may be involved in gambling activities:

- Partaking in regular card games or other gaming situations with a group of peers.
- Speaking openly and frequently about an interest in gambling or borrowing money.
- Becoming extremely competitive and interested in winning and "being right."
- Money they should have (such as allowance) has gone missing.
- Parents' cash or valuables kept in the household is missing.
- Unexplained stashes of money or new possessions appear.
- Interest in extracurricular activities has lessened in recent weeks or months.
- Behavior and attitude has changed, such as becoming more secretive or defensive.
- Increased interest in money and the value of possessions.

National studies have shown that the younger an individual begins gambling, the more likely they are to develop a problem. In today's society, kids have easier access to gambling, through the touch of button or the swipe of a finger.

Revenues from online gambling has doubled since 2009 from \$20.51 billion to \$41.77 billion in 2016.

Additionally, most adults and children do not consider many activities "gambling". However, the definition is "betting money or something of value on an uncertain outcome." This can include video games, sports games, or even "bets and dares". As your children get older it is important to talk to them about the risk of gambling and how easily it can transition into an addiction.

Free counseling, peer supports, group meetings, legal and financial resources, literature, budget assistance and much more are just a phone call, text or chat away...

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

[1-888-ADMIT-IT \(236-4848\)](tel:1-888-ADMIT-IT)

Live Chat at www.gamblinghelp.org

Text to [321-978-0555](tel:321-978-0555)

Email to fccg@gamblinghelp.org