

# Washington State Problem Gambling Program



House Commerce and Gaming Committee

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# Washington State Problem Gambling Program

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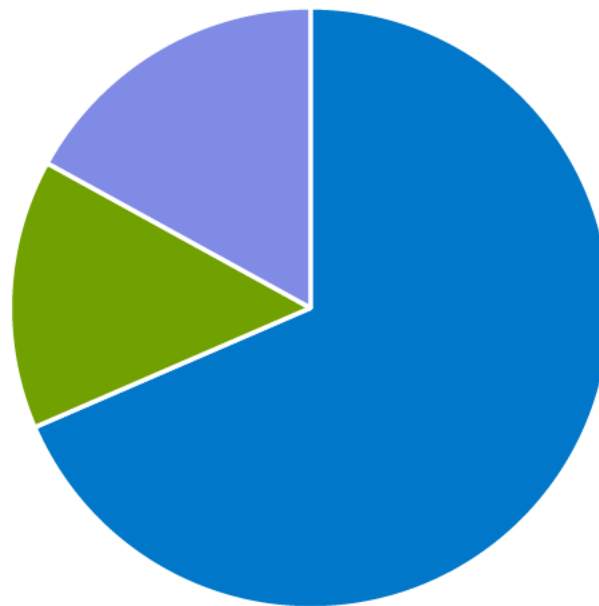
- ▶ Dept. of Health responsible for certifying agencies that provide treatment (agencies must already have substance use disorder certification)
- ▶ HCA delegated certification of problem gambling counselors to Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling
  - ▶ HCA also funds Problem Gambling Counselor Certification program (in addition to outreach and prevention activities)
- ▶ HCA contracts with certified treatment providers/organizations to provide problem gambling outpatient treatment services

# Funding

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► Biennium 2017-2019 funding = approx. \$1,449,000

Washington State Problem Gambling Program Budget



■ State--Outpatient Tx Contracts (68.5%)

■ ECPG--Training, Outreach, Prevention (14.5%)

■ State -- Admin/other (17%)

# Treatment

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- ▶ Treatment provided to individuals and/or family members who are assessed as needing treatment and cannot afford to pay
  - ▶ Clients do not need to be Medicaid eligible
- ▶ Covered outpatient services include:
  - ▶ Assessments
  - ▶ Individual counseling
  - ▶ Group counseling
  - ▶ Family counseling
  - ▶ Case management

# Treatment

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- ▶ HCA contracts with 23 provider agencies/individuals
- ▶ 175 individuals in treatment (as of Nov. 2018)
  - ▶ Over 50% female
  - ▶ 72% age 40 or older
  - ▶ 93% of those served are in Western Washington

# Strengths and needs

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## ▶ Strengths

- ▶ Regular funding stream (established by RCW)
- ▶ Dedicated partners, including Washington State Gambling Commission and Evergreen Council of Problem Gambling

## ▶ Needs

- ▶ Gap in number of problem gambling treatment providers in Eastern Washington
- ▶ Better prevalence data on adolescents and adults





# Questions?

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