**PROBLEM GAMBLING TASK FORCE (PGTF)**

**TASK FORCE – NOTES SUMMARY**

**MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 2020 | 9:00 AM – 1:30 PM | HEALTH CARE AUTHORITY**

Facilitators/Staff: | Uncommon Solutions (Vic Colman, Meg O’Leary), Sasheen Morgan (DBHR)

**Action Items:**

1) **Next meeting:** Monday, April 20, 9am-Noon | The Recovery Café (SODO) 4202 6th Avenue S, Seattle, WA 98108

2) **DBHR & WSGC** – will verify revenue and spending with Dept. of Revenue, including if additional funding available that could be tapped for a prevalence study (in progress)

3) **HCA** send to members: Problem Gambling Study commissioned by WSGC and WA State Certification Committee Handbook (done)

4) **PGTF Members** to sign up for workgroups (if not done so already)—please email roxane.waldron@hca.wa.gov with your selections

5) **Workgroup coordinators** will contact members in Feb to set up meeting time

6) **ECPG** will create a diagram showing regionally where gambling services are available (to include Tribal gambling treatment programs if/as possible)

7) **WSGC** will present discussion from the Task Force meeting at an upcoming Tribal Regulators meeting.

8) **HCA** will create a location on the State Problem Gambling HCA website for the PGTF

9) **Facilitators** will revise draft Charter and share at next all-member Task Force meeting

---

**Welcome and Brief Introductions**

- Directors Dave Trujillo (WA State Gambling Commission) & Keri Waterland (Health Care Authority, Division of Behavioral Health & Recovery --DBHR) welcomed all participants to the first meeting of the Joint Legislative Problem Gambling Task Force.

- All participants introduced themselves by name and role/organization.

**Morning presentations** (for .pdfs of any of these presentations, email roxane.waldron@hca.wa.gov) (Note: in future, all relevant materials will be available online)

- **Overview of Problem Gambling Task Force** (Brian Considine/WSGC & Roxane Waldron/DBHR))
  - PGTF Timeline, scope, and goals for the PGTF as specified in the proviso.

- **State Problem Gambling Program** (Roxane Waldron/DBHR)
  - Overview of gambling and problem gambling in WA State (Adults & Youth)
  - State PG Program is low-barrier for individuals seeking treatment for problem gambling
  - Contracts with 15 treatment providers as well as the Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling (ECPG) for awareness, prevention, and provider and staff training
  - Program budget and funding overview
PROBLEM GAMBLING TASK FORCE (PGTF)

- **Clinical Overview & Treatment Provider Certification** (Maureen Greeley & Tana Russell/ECPG)
  - How to access services for problem gambling (35 certified treatment providers)
  - Key issues: awareness, services & gaps, certification and barriers
  - WA State Gambling Counselor certification process
  - Merging worlds of gaming and gambling online and on mobile devices

- **Sports Gambling & Voluntary Self-Exclusion Program** (Brian Considine/WSGC)
  - Types of sports wagers including in-game wagering
  - US States – operating sports wagering and legalized but not yet operating
  - WA State law & sports gambling bills
  - Problem gambling considerations
  - Voluntary self-exclusion timeline

**Working lunch & Afternoon activities**

- **Prioritization Activity—Exploring Key Challenges & Opportunities** (Meg O’Leary & Vic Colman/Uncommon Solutions)
  - Participants (individually, in pairs, and then in small groups) identified issues related to problem gambling and then these were sorted into rough categories for workgroups:
    - **Research & Data** – prevalence study (key elements: at-risk pops, regional data, best practice data)
    - **Prevention, Treatment and Access to Care**
    - **Certification**
    - **Policy** (general agreement that this workgroup will become active later as workgroups begin to produce recommendations)
  - Members engaged in discussion about which items should be assigned to each workgroup. See PGTF Workgroup descriptions for specifics.

- **Task Force Charter Development** (Meg O’Leary & Vic Colman/UC)
  - Members reviewed the draft charter and asked for the following changes:
    - Added ‘and gaming’ under Scope and Activities
    - Added due dates for reports (Nov 1, 2020 and Nov 30, 2021 respectively)
    - Added ‘and youth’ to Scope and Activities
    - Revised description of Roles and Responsibilities to include Commissioner Julia Patterson as Chair and Brad Galvin and Vice Chair
    - Revised Decision Making to include a modified consensus process and that ‘minority opinions will be welcomed and presented to the Task Force for discussion and consideration.’
      - Facilitators will bring the Revised Charter forth for adoption at the next all-Task Force meeting on April 20, 2020.

- **Wrap Up/Next Steps**:
  - Workgroup sign-ups were passed around—another opportunity will be available
  - Scheduled next meeting: April 20, 9-Noon, Recovery Café (SODO), Seattle WA