

Lakeshore Regional Entity Gambling Disorder Prevention Project

Our Mission:

To apply the Strategic Prevention Framework planning process to preventing Gambling Disorders in the LRE Region.

Complete:

Needs Assessment: Collected and reviewed data to understand the scope of gambling disorders within the LRE region, including risk factors that increase the likelihood of gambling disorders.

Strategic Plan: A comprehensive strategic plan to guide the LRE in collaborative regional and community-level initiatives to prevent and reduce gambling disorders in the LRE region. Adopted August 2019.

Capacity Building to Educate Youth: To support the region's providers in providing education to youth, a two-lesson GD prevention curriculum was developed for use with middle and high school students and has been approved for use by the MDHHS.

On December 17th, a training was provided on the curricula to 14 attendees including 8 prevention specialists, the Program Manager for the Michigan Gambling Treatment Program and 2 gambling coordinators from other regions in the state. 100% of training participants agreed the training was relevant to them and their role in preventing gambling among youth and 91% believe that the lessons will reduce gambling among youth.

In Progress

Mini-Grants: Five projects received funding starting December 1st to reduce and prevent gambling among specific populations. Projects include:

- Allegan County Community Mental Health Services: Improve identification during intake process and support 2 treatment clinicians in becoming GD clinicians.
- Family Outreach Center (Kent): Integrate GD into treatment, develop and promote a self-assessment tool, integrate info into prevention programming.
- District 10 Health Department (Lake, Mason, Oceana): Community presentations and info dissemination to raise awareness; integrate into prevention programming with youth.
- Pine Rest: Basic GD training for clinicians, improve GD identification during intake and address GD as a co-occurring issue in treatment plans.
- Arbor Circle: Integrate into substance abuse prevention programming or youth and parenting programs. Staff attend gambling symposium.

Next Steps FY20

GD Clinician Availability: Additional funds were granted to LRE to provide scholarships to interested clinicians to attend the 2020 Michigan Gambling Disorder Symposium and to complete online training required to be qualified to serve as a clinician for gambling disorders on the state's panel and to receive referrals from the Michigan Gambling Hotline:

- March 2020: Scholarships will be available to support clinicians who are interested in becoming qualified to serve as clinician on the state's GD provider panel to attend the Michigan Gambling Disorder Symposium on March 5th, 2020. Forum details and scholarship application forms will be available the first week of February, 2020.
- April - September 2020: Clinicians in the LRE provider panel committed to becoming qualified to serve as a clinician on the state's GD provider panel will be eligible to apply for financial support to complete the 30-Hour, web-based NATI Gambling Disorder Training required by the State of Michigan. Funds would reimburse the agency for staff time required. The training is offered at no cost. Eligible clinicians must possess a master's degree and license (including limited) to practice therapy in Michigan and commit to serving on the GD Panel. Further detail and application forms will be distributed in early February 2020.

Social Marketing Campaign: A regional marketing campaign to support regional strategies of the strategic plan will be developed late in FY20. It is anticipated that campaign messaging will continue in FY21.