FLORIDA COUNCIL ON COMPULSIVE GAMBLING 888-ADMIT-IT www.gamblinghelp.org

2015/2016 HelpLine Stats are in!

FCCG Resources

- www.gamblinghelp.org
- Text to 321-978-0555
- Chat Live at gamblinghelp.org
- 888-ADMIT-IT (236-4848)
- Recovery Path Counseling Program
- Peer Connect Program

FCCG Resources

Professional Counseling	√
12 Step Meeting Referral	✓
Peer Connect Program	✓
Chance For Change Books	✓
Legal Assistance	✓
Social Services	✓
Special Programs	✓

Data From the 888-ADMIT-IT HelpLine

Throughout the 2015/2016 fiscal year, the FCCG received over 5,900 contacts to its 888-ADMIT-IT Helpline for help or information about a gambling problem. This was a 9% increase over the previous year.

When looking at the Help contacts, data showed that 75% of them were from the gambler themselves, and males made up the largest percentage of gamblers (64%).

Slots (45%), card games (29%) and lottery (12%) were the primary problems most often cited, and casinos (54%), convenience stores (13%), and racinos (12%) were the most popular gambling locations.

The average debt of the gambler was almost \$50,000 and more than half owed money to credit cards. Other sources of gambling debt were family members, friends, loan companies, and banks.



One third of the gamblers had committed illegal acts to finance their addiction. The majority cited fraud, larceny or embezzlement. Further, one quarter of the gamblers had faced legal actions against them due to their addiction. These actions included civil suits, being arrested for a crime, home foreclosure, and divorce.

The majority were anxious (77%) and depressed (70%) and 29% stated the gambler had suicidal ideations due to their addiction.

High rates of family

conflict (73%), family neglect (69%) and family violence (5%) were all noted throughout the year.

More than one quarter of the gamblers also suffered from an alcohol and/or substance abuse problem, and 40% stated the gambler came from a family with a history of gambling problems.

FCCG HelpLine Specialists offer a wide variety of resources to people that reach out for help. These resources include but are not limited to: free counseling through the Recovery Path program with a certified gambling addiction professional, 12-step meeting referrals, literature, peer support, financial credit counseling and much more!

More stats from 2015/2016

- More than one in seven of the gamblers started wagering before the legal age of 18
- Three quarters were having problems paying household bills
- Almost half of the gamblers were having problems at work due to their addiction
- Half had pawned or sold assets in order to obtain money to gamble with
- Almost one in five of the gamblers were either unemployed or were on disability
- More than half cited the lottery as a secondary problem