



Focus Youth Gambling Prevention

Focus Youth Gambling Prevention program is in its fifth year of implementation and we have reached students and youth groups across the entire state of Illinois. Over the last 50 years, we have implemented two other youth prevention programs, Operation Snowball, Inc. and the Cebrin Goodman Teen Institute (CGTI) out of the IABH office as well. As a statewide youth prevention program, we provide students with many programming opportunities to build skills in advocacy, leadership, public speaking, and youth gambling prevention education.

Problem Gambling Awareness Month (PGAM)

Problem Gambling Awareness Month (PGAM) is a crucial time to shine a spotlight on the risks and impact of gambling among youth. This month encourages young people, and educators to recognize the signs of problem gambling, such as an obsession with betting, borrowing money to gamble, or neglecting responsibilities. With the rise of online gaming and sports betting, youth are more exposed than ever to gambling-like activities that can lead to addictive behaviors. As PGAM occurs during the month of march, major sporting events such as march madness occur during this period. PGAM promotes prevention through education, fostering open conversations about the risks of gambling, and providing resources for those struggling or at risk. Empowering youth with knowledge and coping strategies is key to preventing the long-term consequences of problem gambling.

Why You?

This is a wonderful opportunity to launch gambling prevention within your school and to increase your other prevention applications. We are requesting a tabling session in which we can hand out materials to students and to discuss ways of preventing gambling within their communities. This has been utilized across the state by many other schools and we are hoping to get into your schools. Please feel free to reach out to me to discuss this opportunity further and learn about additional ways to benefit your students.

Ryan Aten (He/Him/His)
Prevention Specialist
Illinois Association for Behavioral Health

FOCUS

YOUTH GAMBLING PREVENTION

powered by IABH

School Engagement



937 South Second Street,
Springfield, IL 62704

217-528-7335 ext. 30 • 770-715-1621 (Cell)
Ryan@ilabh.org