

8/1/11

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Casino Association to “Train the Trainers” in Responsible Gaming
*Indiana gaming organization brings in top national experts for Responsible Gaming
Education Week*

INDIANAPOLIS – The Casino Association of Indiana is taking its commitment to responsible gaming to a new level this year, offering its member casinos training from one of the nation’s leading experts on the subject.

On Tuesday, August 9, the Association will host a four-hour session to “train the trainers” from its member properties in the latest techniques for promoting responsible gaming. The session will be led by Arnie and Sheila Wexler Associates, one of the nation’s foremost authorities on compulsive gaming, and will be attended by the problem gaming coordinators from each member casino.

“As an industry, we take the issue of responsible gaming extremely seriously,” said Mike Smith, president and CEO of the Casino Association of Indiana. “That’s why, each year, we are among the most active participants in Responsible Gaming Education Week, and we make it a priority to take the themes and lessons of that week and apply them throughout the year.

“This year, we opted to take things a step further, and to offer additional training to the people in our casinos whose job is to identify and intervene in problem gaming situations.”

Among the subjects to be covered in the four-hour session are:

- Understanding of compulsive gambling
- How to identify someone with a gambling problem
- Employee gambling problems
- Intervention techniques
- Suggestions for implementing a responsible gaming program

The sessions facilitators, Arnie and Sheila Wexler Associates, are led by Arnie Wexler, a former executive director of the Council Compulsive Gambling of New Jersey. Wexler has been involved in helping compulsive gamblers for more than 30 years, with a client roster that includes the Betty Ford Foundation, the U.S. Army, the government of Iceland, the NFL, NBA, and NCAA.

Wexler also has his own history of compulsive gambling, stating, “I am a recovering compulsive gambler who placed my last bet on April 10, 1968 ... Compulsive gambling is a devastating disease, not only for the gambler, but also for his or her family.”

Reporters can contact Mike Smith at (317) 231-7030.
