

APPENDIX D

PROBLEM GAMBLING PREVENTION GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Guiding Principles

- The providers of DHHS-funded Problem Gambling Prevention efforts will share the Department's **neutral position in neither being for or against gambling**.
- **Providers of DHHS-funded Problem Gambling Prevention efforts must support the mission and vision** of the DHHS Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling.
- **Messages to the public about responsible gambling and problem gambling awareness will be consistent, non-blaming, hopeful, and aim to reduce negative stigma** associated with obtaining problem gambling treatment.
- Much of the work of message distribution and education will be done at the local/community level. **Community empowerment** is a mainstay of good prevention efforts.
- There is no need to create a new service infrastructure. **Existing service structures, community organizations and interested parties** will be helped to add prevention of problem gambling to their existing efforts and future plans.
- Nurturing existing **partnerships** and developing new ones is a critical component and a high priority.
- **Best practices in prevention**, including but not limited to: proven conceptual framework, measurable goals and objectives, outcome and process evaluation, long-term commitment and replicability, will guide all of the work.
- **Cultural and linguistic competency** will be the expectation.
- **Individuals and communities at high risk** will be a priority.
- Maintaining **high quality and a strategic focus** of programs will be achieved by obtaining expert input at the design stage of programs.