

Media Release

Hoosier Uplands Awarded Funding for Problem Gambling Prevention Initiative

Hoosier Uplands has been awarded funding from the Division of Mental Health and Addiction (DMHA), within the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration, to assess the degree of problem gambling within the Mitchell based non-profit organization's primary service area and, if appropriate, contribute to a strategic action plan for Indiana.

Staff from Hoosier Uplands will be working with representatives from DMHA and the Indiana Prevention Resource Center at Indiana University to identify relevant risk and protective factors prior to conducting community readiness surveys and providing technical assistance to add strategic action plans that address targets of *Imagine Indiana Together: The Framework to Advance the Indiana Prevention System*.

"We look forward to working with our various partners to continue prevention efforts relating to alcohol, tobacco, and other drug prevention as we expand our prevention focus to include problem gambling", said Steve Adams, director of strategic development and consulting services at Hoosier Uplands and past president of the Indiana Association of Prevention Professionals.

The goals of the problem gambling prevention initiative include: determining the degree and extent of problem gambling across age groups; maximizing resources for prevention; and making recommendations on procedures and action to be taken to DMHA concerning problem gambling prevention.

"Hoosier Uplands was one of four organizations in Indiana selected to work on this initiative because of our past involvement in serving as a contractor to DMHA for two of the sixteen evidence-based prevention projects that were funded beginning in 2000 through the State Incentive Grant Indiana received from the federal level", said David Miller, CEO of Hoosier Uplands.

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