

Our Voices: Impact of Problem Gambling on Minority Youth

Video Presentation & Informational Briefing

Friday, March 5, 2010

11:00-11:30

402 Cannon House Office Building

Video Presentation:

Shake'm Up Break'm, Seattle Interagency Academy Youth Ensemble

Discussion:

Malik Harris, Delaware Council on Gambling Problems

Dr. Deborah Haskins, Loyola University/Maryland Council on Problem Gambling

Keith Whyte, National Council on Problem Gambling

While minority youth are less likely to gamble, those who do gamble are more likely to spend more money more frequently. Communities of color may have less access to comprehensive health programs, especially culturally-specific services. As a result, minority youth may be at greater risk for gambling problems yet have fewer resources available to prevent and treat gambling addiction.

The National Council on Problem Gambling has arranged this briefing for legislators and staff members to raise awareness of this important issue. Hear from minority youth themselves—***Shake'm Up Break'm*** is an award-winning video developed by the Seattle, WA Interagency Academy Youth Ensemble. Written, directed and performed by the youth ensemble, this 9 minute video is high-energy, professionally-produced exploration of the impact of gambling addiction on a young family.

Dr. Deborah Haskins will focus on challenges facing communities of color in accessing, engaging and affording problem gambling treatment. **Malik Harris** will discuss the alarming statistics from Delaware's large studies of youth gambling and his experience as a mentor and presenter to youth with gambling problems in correctional facilities. **Keith Whyte** will discuss ***HR 2906, the Comprehensive Problem Gambling Act***.

Light refreshments will be served, and copies of *Shake'm Up Break'm* will be available to attendees. Please RSVP to 202.547.2904 or meganl@ncpgambling.org

The National Council on Problem Gambling is the national advocate for programs and services to assist problem gamblers and their families. NCPG is a 501(c)(3) charity and is neutral on legalized gambling.