



MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 2, 2012

For more information contact:

NCADD-RA Director, Jennifer Faringer
(585) 719-3480

jfaringer@depaul.org

www.ncadd-ra.org

Parents enlisted in fight against problem gambling

(Rochester, New York) — Youth are exposed to gambling now more than ever. The New York Council on Problem Gambling is working with local Prevention Councils statewide to educate parents of school-age youth about problem gambling and encourage them to discuss the issue with their kids. As part of the efforts, the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence-Rochester Area (NCADD-RA) is offering parent presentations for area school and community groups.

The New York Council on Problem Gambling *2012 Problem Gambling Parent Education and Outreach Project* is the first statewide, coordinated effort focused on raising awareness through education sessions, information dissemination, and various advertising efforts including web, television and print.

According to the results of a survey conducted by the NYS Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services, about 48 percent of seventh through twelfth graders reported they had gambled in the past year. Approximately 140,000 adolescents have had problems due to gambling and another 10 percent are at risk.

Children and adolescents are more likely to gamble if they witness adults gambling, and especially if the adults show interest and excitement about gambling. Steps parents can take to educate their children about problem gambling include:

- Explain that gambling is an occasional activity meant for entertainment only, not as a way to make money.
- Discuss the risks and negative consequences associated with engaging in gambling activities.
- Discourage friends and family members from giving Lottery tickets or engaging in other forms of gambling with their children.

For more information visit <http://www.ncadd-ra.org>

###