

**Oregon Health Authority-Problem Gambling Services
Multiethnic Advisory Committee
Charter
Updated August 27, 2024**

Background

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA), supports equity in health care for individuals receiving services through the public health and behavioral health systems.

In 2005, Problem Gambling Services (PGS), like many behavioral health systems, identified the disparity of cultural representation among their treatment and prevention programs. Being that the Latino population is the second largest population in Oregon and at the time PGS had a staff person at the state level who was Spanish speaking and bicultural, it was determine that expansion of Spanish speaking gambling treatment services would be addressed first.

In October of 2007, Problem Gambling Services hosted a specific conference, titled: Working with Latinos. The PGS program reached out to the Spanish speaking behavioral health community and professionals across Oregon regarding the problem of gambling disorder, availability of treatment and requested advice on the following issues:

- Identifying best methods to reach the Spanish speaking community
- Identifying barriers to accessing treatment
- Identifying what has been done, what works and what does not.

From this discussion, strategies were developed based on the above statements.

In the Spring of 2008, following the conference, many conference participants participated in two focus groups and from these focus group sessions, it was recommended that a group continue to meet and assist with the development and advisement of Spanish speaking services within the gambling treatment system. The PGS Latino Advisory Committee was officially formed in Fall of 2008.

In the Spring of 2009, PGS begin meeting with representative members of the Asian American population forming an Asian American Advisory Group. This group, along with PGS, developed and hosted an Asian American Problem Gambling Awareness and Education Summit to increase awareness and provide education regarding problem gambling within the Asian American community. At the summit feedback was collected and the Asian American Advisory Group developed plans to increase awareness and education to this population and the development of a treatment program to serve this specific population.

In 2014, the Asian American Advisory Group and the Latino Advisory Committee decided to combine their meetings, as both groups found that they were advising and strategizing related to similar barriers. These two groups formed into the PGS Multicultural Advisory Committee. In early 2016, the committee incorporated representation from the African American population with the development of a new African American culturally specific gambling program, and in early 2017, the Native American population was also included through representation from an existing gambling treatment program. In 2024 the committee changed their name to the PGS Multiethnic Advisory Committee.

Teams and Governance

Sponsor – Nicole Corbin, OHA- Addictions Treatment, Recovery, and Prevention Manager

Lead- Greta Coe, OHA- Problem Gambling Services Manager

Team Membership-

Membership is open to any PGS and BH multicultural or multiethnic providers/clinicians. Current membership represents the Latino, African American, Native American and Asian American populations.

When

- The committee meets on the third Friday of each month from 9:00 am to 10:30 am via Zoom Technology.
- Meeting discussions documented through minutes.
- Twice a year the committee hosts a hybrid meeting for the committee from 9 am to 2 pm.

How

- The committee will make recommendations based on consensus to PGS staff.
- The lead will determine plan and timeline to implement recommendations within the PGS system.
- The lead/sponsor will take recommendations to OHA leadership when necessary.

Reimbursement/Stipend (when needed)

- Committee members will be reimbursed for mileage traveled from their work location to meeting location, as long as their starting destination was their work location.
- Committee members will be reimbursed for cost of parking.
- Committee members that travel over 70 miles one-way for the meeting and spend the night will be reimbursed for lodging and per diem.

Scope

The PGS Multiethnic Advisory Committee will assist the Problem Gambling Services system in development related to culturally specific services and programs in order to eliminate health disparities among specialty populations by providing the following:

- Monitor and evaluate gambling treatment services and data related to culturally specific services for adults.
- Identify needs and recommend strategies to PGS that improves utilization, efficacy, access and satisfaction (e.g. availability, retention, and outcomes) among culturally specific gambling treatment services.
- Enhances the quality of care for individuals receiving culturally specific gambling treatment services funded by PGS.
- Identifies emerging issues for culturally specific communities, advise PGS on problem gambling treatment, prevention, and outreach strategies.
- Identifies current problem gambling workforce strengths, needs, gaps and makes recommendations for plan to build a quality culturally specific PGS workforce.

Deliverables

- Produce charter.
- Review and provide feedback on culturally specific messages/materials related to problem gambling and behavioral health.
- Review and provide feedback on translated materials for PGS.

- Identify and evaluate culturally specific materials available nationally.
- Identify the barriers to services for culturally specific populations, strategize solutions and make recommendations to PGS staff.
- Provide open invitation to other behavioral health programs within behavioral health that are in need of advisement related to culturally specific populations.

Exclusion and Boundaries

This committee currently works directly with staff within PGS, a program within the Behavior Health Division of OHA. This committee will take requests to provide advisement to other behavioral health programs within OHA.

Dependencies

This committee and its work fulfill the requirements under ORS 413.520- Gambling addiction programs in Oregon Health Authority. The ORS states:
The authority may appoint an advisory committee or designate an existing advisory committee to make recommendations to the authority concerning:
(a) Performance standards and evaluation methodology;
(b) Fiscal reporting and accountability;
(c) Delivery of services; and
(d) A distribution plan for use of available funds.

Approved: 8/23/2024