



**Phone: 1800 858 858**

**Access Counselling and  
Information Services**

**Level 6 , 14-20 Blackwood St North  
Melb, 3051.**

**Ph: (03) 942 2600**



**Victorian  
Responsible  
Gambling  
Foundation**

**[www.responsiblegambling.vic.gov.au](http://www.responsiblegambling.vic.gov.au)**



**Phone: 1800 888 236**

**[www.directline.org.au](http://www.directline.org.au)**



**138 Woodhouse Gve, Box Hill North**

**Ph 1300 306 975 : [gam-anon@live.com.au](mailto:gam-anon@live.com.au)**

**[Www.gam-anon.org](http://Www.gam-anon.org)**



**54-62 Gertrude St Fitzroy:  
03 8413 8413**

**[www.turningpoint.org.au](http://www.turningpoint.org.au)**

## **CRISIS AND EMERGENCY ACCOMMODATION**

**Werribee (co-located with Werribee Support &  
Housing Service)**

**Level 1, 1-13 Watton StW**

**Werribee Vic 3030**

**Phone: 03 8744 2100**



**Department of  
Human Services**

**Transitional Housing**

**229 Barkly St (enter via Bacash Way)**

**Footscray, 3011**

**Free Call: 1800 825 955**

**Ph: 03 9688 8300**



**African  
Communities  
Foundation  
Australia inc**



**Address: 241 Wellington Street, Collingwood (Collingwood Neighbour Justice Centre)**

**Phone: (03) 9948 8777**

**Email: [jose@africanfoundation.org.au](mailto:jose@africanfoundation.org.au)**

**Website: [www.africanfoundation.org.au](http://www.africanfoundation.org.au)**

**Horn of Africa Communities Network Inc**

## **Wyndham Gambling Prevention Program (WGPP)**



**3/9 Motto Crt**

**Hoppers Crossing**

**Vic 3029**

**Ph 87427738 : 0490080933**

**[admin@hacn.org.au](mailto:admin@hacn.org.au)**

Gambling is an addiction associated with mental health problems including depression, anxiety and anti-social personality disorder. Gambling addictions can lead to many serious consequences, including loss of jobs, failed relationships and severe debt. Problem gambling effects can also include avoiding others due to shame or embarrassment. The stress of gambling problems sometimes causes health problems. But there is help available if people understand these effects. There are needs for public health and treatment services to routinely screen and assess for a range of issues, including gambling problems, family violence, alcohol and drug abuse and mental health concerns and provide treatments designed to manage this cluster of conditions.

HACN would like to express its appreciation to the Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation who made the funds and professional support available to develop this pilot project in order to address these problems in our communities in respectful, culturally responsive and empowering ways.

WGPP developed resources and facilitated community education and forums to raise awareness and deal with problem gambling in newly arrived communities from refugee backgrounds – in this case five ethnic groups living in the Wyndham area. The provision of public health information and specialised treatment services targeted towards ‘at risk’ groups can help to combat the potential adverse effects of increased gambling cultures.

This educational resource kit developed in five community languages contains information that will be helpful to those who are seeking assistance either for themselves, their family and friends or community members. It is translated into Amharic, Somali, Dinka, Karen and Chin to increase these communities’ access to information in their own language.

HACN extensively worked with community elders from Sudan, Ethiopia, Burma and Somalia who identified what gambling means to them and their respective communities and assisted in developing this resource kit. What gambling means for them and their messages are listed below

#### From the Sudanese elders:

Lotto drains your money away. Hugging pokies can harm your relationship and life

Gambling is a wildfire- it can burn your savings, welfare and wallet (devastating rapidly)

#### From the Chin:

Avoid poverty, don’t gamble. If you really love your family, never try gambling .

#### From the Karen:

Sit and think carefully! You are thinking wrongly if you think gambling is an easy way to get money, you can easily lose everything! When you regret gambling, make the right decision and walk away!

#### From the Somali:

If you’ve made a mistake with gambling, switch to the right path. Gambling is a hidden drug, it is addictive and won’t solve your problems . Do your homework—be aware of what your children are doing online.

#### From the Ethiopians :

Gambling is like cancer, don’t hide your worries; the quicker you get help the better for you family.

Be brave enough to say NO to gambling

Support your family in seeking help with gambling from agencies supporting gamblers

#### Other important messages from the Elders:

Believe in change- seek help and you CAN recover from gambling. Many people just like you, resolve their gambling problems through seeking help!

Don’t hide your gambling problem .. It is not your fault that gambling is addictive, and with help you can recover!

Gambling leads to crimes—it is dangerous. You can solve your financial or family problems—there are people out there who can help you—so ask for help! Gambling support services are confidential and free .

Make sure you know what your children are doing online—it is easy for them to get sucked into online gambling and they are widely advertised