

# **HMSA** HEALTH MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS OF AMERICA

HELPING PEOPLE LIVE BETTER LIVES

December 12, 2014

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley  
Governor of South Carolina  
1205 Pendleton Street  
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley,

Health Management Systems of America (HMSA) has over 34 years of experience providing a variety of behavioral health services designed to meet the needs of government agencies, community groups, individuals and corporations on a local, regional and national level. In an effort to address one of America's primary public health concerns, HMSA provides a comprehensive array of services to address compulsive gambling on a statewide basis.

HMSA has created innovative strategies aimed at supplying solutions to those seeking help for a gambling problem. Our services include a telephone help-line that is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and referral services for the assessment, intervention and treatment of problem gamblers. In providing these services, HMSA utilizes a statewide network of trained and certified healthcare professionals to provide education, awareness, and address problem gambling in schools, businesses and community groups.

Problem gambling is a condition that often goes unnoticed and can slip under the public's radar. For many people, gambling starts as a source of entertainment and a way to socialize. However, gambling can easily become an unexpected problem. Problem gambling often becomes an addiction causing significant financial, personal, and family turmoil.

HMSA's value proposition includes a commitment to reduce the impact of problem gambling through a public health approach that takes into consideration the biological, behavioral, economic, cultural, and environmental factors that influence gambling and overall health. By partnering with HMSA, we will give you the needed support and resources to help combat problem gambling. If you would like additional information my contact information is listed below.

Sincerely,



Tom James  
Senior Consultant  
Email: [tom.james@hmsanet.com](mailto:tom.james@hmsanet.com)

To view HMSA's Problem Gambling Services video please visit the following link:  
[www.YouTube.com/watch?v=Y0Pc6bu53gQ](http://www.YouTube.com/watch?v=Y0Pc6bu53gQ)

601 Washington Blvd. Detroit, MI 48226  
Phone: 313-964-3100 Fax: 313-964-5507  
[www.hmsanet.com](http://www.hmsanet.com)





## HMSA Services

### *Gambling Hotline:*

- 24/7 Confidential Problem Gambling Hotline— staffed by Master's level or above counselors
- Help is available in more than 200 languages and through TDY services
- Network of certified professionals trained in providing treatment for compulsive gambling

### *Problem Gambling Public Awareness and Prevention Education:*

- Lectures and seminars on problem gambling
- Resources on problem gambling for non-profit organizations, schools, businesses, and other community groups
- Senior Center Presentations
- Informational booth set-up for health fairs or conferences
- Information dissemination to all media outlets

### *Problem Gambling Trainings:*

HMSA offers trainings to a variety of audiences on Problem Gambling Addition and Prevention services, including:

- Health and Human Service Professionals
- Casino Employees
- Health Care Clinicians
- School and Youth Organizations

### *Business/Workplace Services:*

- Education and consultation services to the gaming industry and other businesses/corporations
- Educational materials regarding workplace gambling
- Employee presentations on the impact, warning signs, and treatments options of problem gambling in the workplace

### *Criminal Justice Services:*

- HMSA Prevention Services conducts group presentations throughout the criminal justice system
- Specialized presentations for judges, probation officers, lawyers (including public defenders) and other professionals in the criminal justice system. An emphasis is placed on the connection between gambling addiction and criminal behavior.

For additional information please contact HMSA at: (313) 964-3100  
or visit our website at: [www.hmsanet.com](http://www.hmsanet.com)

## **PROBLEM GAMBLING FACTS / STATISTICS**

- Approximately 6 million adults and 500,000 teens meet criteria for gambling addiction.
- The estimated annual societal cost of gambling-related addiction, bankruptcy, and crime in America is \$7 billion dollars.
- 75% of US adults have gambled at least once in the last year, 15% at least weekly.

*Reference: Accessed from the National Council on Problem Gambling, Facts and Figures, 2014.*



[www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y0Pc6bu53gQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y0Pc6bu53gQ)

