



New York’s Responsible Play Partnership announces community meetings to underscore commitment to Responsible Gaming

First Meeting Taking Place March 22 at Schenectady County Community College

Meetings occurring during National Problem Gambling Awareness Month

New York’s Responsible Play Partnership (RPP) – consisting of the New York State Gaming Commission, the New York State Office on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS) and the New York Council on Problem Gambling – will hold public meetings later this month in communities hosting newly opened commercial casinos to underscore the state’s commitment to Responsible Gaming and educate the public on the resources available for those who need help.

The first meeting will take place Wednesday, March 22 at Schenectady County Community College at 5 p.m. with additional events in the Finger Lakes and Southern Tier occurring during the last week of the month.

“Now that resort destination casinos are operating in New York State, it’s important to remind everyone in the community and beyond that there are procedures in place and avenues available for those who need help with problem gambling,” said Commission Executive Director Robert Williams. “These meetings are an opportunity for the public and community leaders to hear from treatment professionals, the regulator and the actual casino operators on the resources available within their respective regions.”

“We look forward to meeting with community members, to discuss problem gambling and gambling addiction services,” said OASAS Commissioner Arlene González-Sánchez. “It takes a team effort to combat gambling addiction, and by partnering with people who are directly impacted by it, we can make a positive impact on New Yorkers’ lives.”

By going to the casinos and meeting with their neighbors, we are illustrating the importance we put on problem gambling,” said New York Council on Problem Gambling Executive Director James Maney. “These events are a great opportunity for the individuals who operate the casinos to meet those who provide treatment in the community so they can learn from each other.”

The events are free and open to the public. Anyone curious about how the new casinos promote responsible gaming practices, or want to learn more about the resources available to problem gamblers and/or their families and friends are encouraged to attend.

Capital Region/Rivers Casino & Resort:
Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at 5 p.m.
Schenectady County Community College
Elston Hall, Mohawk Room

78 Washington Ave
Schenectady, NY 12305

Finger Lakes/del Lago Resort & Casino:

Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at 5 p.m.
Seneca County Office Building
Training Auditorium
2465 North Road
Seneca Falls, NY 13148

Southern Tier/Tioga Downs:

Wednesday, March 29 at 5 p.m.
SUNY Broome Community College
Lecture Hall, Business Building 110
907 Front St
Binghamton, NY 13905

As it has since its inception in 2013, the RPP will continue to work with gaming operators, players, and the problem gambling prevention and treatment communities beyond March, educating the public about the warning signs of problem gambling and raising awareness about the help that is available close to home. The RPP was [formed in February 2013](#) to collaboratively address problem gambling in New York State. Since then, the RPP has undertaken a series of initiatives, including the state's [first-ever public forum](#) featuring experts and stakeholders from around the world discussing best practices and policies in the era of expanded gaming. To learn more about the RPP's work, visit [here](#).

New Yorkers struggling with an addiction, or whose loved ones are struggling, can find help and hope by calling the state's toll-free, 24-hour, 7-day-a-week HOPEline at 1-877-8-HOPENY (1-877-846-7369) or by texting HOPENY (Short Code 467369). Available addiction treatment including crisis/detox, inpatient, community residence, or outpatient care can be found using this new and improved NYS OASAS Treatment Availability.

Visit the OASAS dashboard at FindAddictionTreatment.ny.gov or through the [Access Treatment page](#) on the [NYS OASAS website](#). Visit the #CombatAddiction website at oasas.ny.gov/CombatAddiction to learn more about how you can help to #CombatAddiction in your community.

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