

The Intersection of Gambling and Suicide

Objectives

1. Participants will define problem gambling and gambling disorder and describe basic differences in severity and clinical presentation.
2. Participants will recognize common risk factors associated with increased suicide risk among individuals experiencing gambling-related problems.
3. Participants will identify warning signs of suicidality in clients with gambling disorder and describe basic safety planning and referral considerations appropriate to their role.



Hannah Linville, LISW-S, LICDC, GAMB

Program Description

The Intersection of Gambling and Suicide explores the relationship between gambling-related problems and suicide risk. Participants will learn foundational distinctions between problem gambling and gambling disorder, including considerations from the DSM, the Problem Gambling Severity Index (PGSI), and Gamblers Anonymous.

The session reviews key suicide risk factors, prevalence considerations, and cultural influences relevant to individuals experiencing gambling-related harm. Attendees are introduced to practical screening tools for both gambling and suicide risk such as the BBGS, PGSI, GA 20 Questions, and the C-SSRS along with basic guidance on responding to positive screens. Evidence-informed interventions, including the Stanley-Brown Safety Plan, are highlighted to support early identification and referral within participants' professional roles.

Learning is reinforced through a case example, demonstrating how risk factors, screening tools, and safety planning can be applied in practice. Lecture, visual materials, and interactive Q&A provide a clear and accessible foundation for recognizing and responding to the intersection of gambling and suicide risk.

Speaker Bio

Hannah Linville is a behavioral health clinician with nine years of experience in the field and eight years of direct clinical practice, including extensive work in addiction treatment. She is skilled in conducting diagnostic and biopsychosocial assessments, providing crisis intervention, and delivering individual and group counseling across a range of clinical settings. Hannah specializes in working with substance use disorders, gambling disorder, and survivors of domestic violence, and brings a trauma informed, client centered approach to her work. She integrates evidence based practices to support effective assessment and treatment planning.

Eligible for 1 CEU from the Ohio Chemical Dependency Professionals Board (OCDPB)