PROBLEM GAMBLING SOLUTIONS, INC.

Services to the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH)

CONTRACT OVERVIEW

Presented to the Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling

October 27, 2026

About Problem Gambling Solutions

20 years of specialized experience supporting state agencies in problem gambling research, policy, and service system development.

SELECTED STATE AGENCY EXPERIENCE

- **Nevada Department of Human Services (since 2007)**
- **Arizona Department of Gaming**
- **Louisiana Office of Behavioral Health**
- **Oregon Health Authority**
- **Massachusetts Gaming Commission**
- **Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services**

Contract Background

GOAL

Support DPBH in maintaining effective stewardship and oversight of Nevada's publicly funded problem gambling services.

PURPOSE

Extend DPBH's administrative and technical capacity through specialized expertise and ongoing support to DPBH staff, funded service providers, and the Advisory Committee on Problem Gambling.

Core Services

Strategic Planning

STAFF WITH 20+ YEARS EXPERIENCE

Support development, annual review, and refinement of Nevada's problem gambling strategic plan.

Program Reviews

STAFF WITH 30+ YEARS CLINICAL EXPERTISE

Conduct annual treatment program reviews, provide improvement recommendations, and maintain the Treatment Provider Manual.

Technical Assistance

SPECIALIZED FIELD EXPERTISE

Provide specialized consultation, analysis, and implementation support to DPBH, funded providers, and ACPG.

Examples of Our Work

Selected work products illustrate how PGS supports policy, service quality, implementation, and planning.

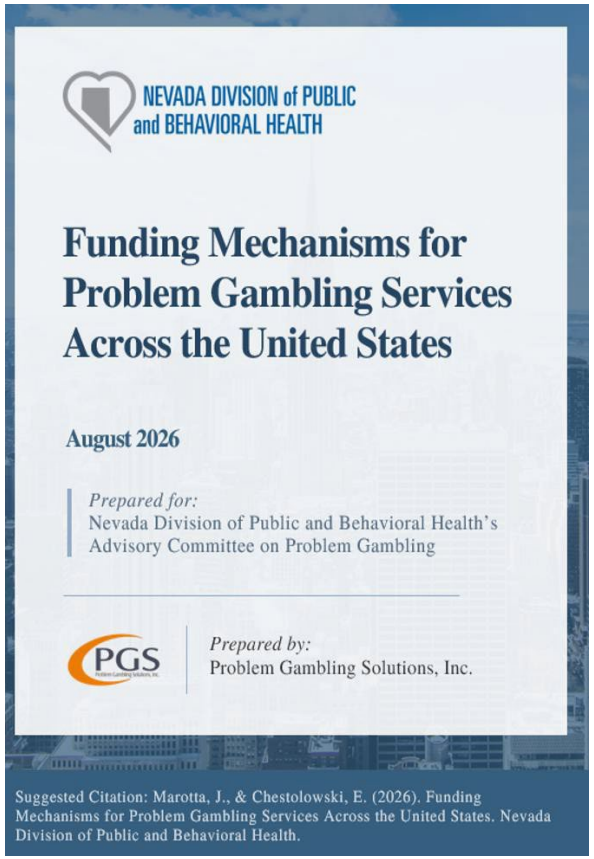
Policy & recommendations

DPBH initiatives

Treatment system support

Strategic planning

Supporting Informed Policy Discussions





Supporting informed policy discussions and recommendations

Turning Priorities into Initiatives



Where Gambling Harm Shows Up in Nevada: Panel Survey Findings and System Responses

JEFF MAROTTA, PH.D.
PROBLEM GAMBLING SOLUTIONS, INC.

ANDREA DASSOPOULOS
UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS

NEVADA STATE CONFERENCE ON PROBLEM GAMBLING - MARCH 25, 2026

NEVADA DIVISION of PUBLIC and BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

PGS

Shaping the Standard: Community Input to Inform Nevada's Problem Gambling Screening Policy

Findings and Implementation Considerations from the 2026 Planning Initiative

Purpose of this report
To synthesize partner input from the 2026 Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health problem gambling screening planning process and translate that input into practical considerations for standards, implementation supports, and future program development.

Prepared for
Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health Problem Gambling Program

Draft for planning and decision-making | August 2026



Behavioral Health Certifications for Excellence in Nevada

Nevada Department of Human Services

ADDRESSING GAMBLING ISSUES IN SUBSTANCE USE TREATMENT

A Guide for Peers and Counselors When Gambling Treatment Is Outside Your Scope

Co-occurring problem gambling can impede substance use treatment success. As a recovery professional, you play an important role in helping clients address co-occurring problems that may impact their substance recovery. Your existing clinical skills can support screening for a problem, compassionate psychoeducation, and encouraging further help-seeking. By following the guidance below, you do not have to step outside of your scope to address potential gambling issues.

1. **Screen Briefly and Routinely**
   - Use validated screens (e.g., PGSI or BBGS). Document results objectively—do not diagnose.
   - Normalize: *"We ask all clients about gambling because it often affects recovery."*
2. **Provide Basic Psychoeducation**
   - Gambling activates the same reward pathways involved in substance use.
   - Wins/losses can trigger cravings or emotional swings that impact recovery.
   - Emphasize that gambling problems are common and treatable.
3. **Explore How Gambling Interacts With Substance Use**
   - Use basic motivational interviewing strategies to help engage clients in discussion about gambling. Clients may not recognize the impact of gambling on their recovery.
   - Ask: *"How does gambling affect your stress, spending, or substance use goals?"*
   - Identify patterns or risks that may disrupt treatment stability.
4. **Offer Self-Help and Community Resources**
   - In Nevada, state-supported specialty gambling treatment is offered at no to low cost: https://www.projectworthnv.org/
   - Free to use apps can support healthy gambling: https://www.getevive.com/
   - Community peer support: Gamblers Anonymous (GA), Gam-Anon for affected others, etc.
5. **Refer When Concerns Exceed Your Scope & Monitor Goals**
   - Document objectively without diagnosing (e.g., client scored a 10 on the PGSI, placing them on the high-risk range for problem gambling).
   - Document the client's goal in their treatment or recovery plan.
   - Monitor goal, using client's self-report (e.g., client reported no gambling for past 30 days)
   - Refer to a qualified provider for further evaluation to rule out a gambling disorder.

Key Reminder: You are not diagnosing or treating gambling disorder—you are recognizing how gambling affects recovery, supporting safety and stability, and connecting clients to appropriate care.

Helping translate priorities into actionable initiatives

Strengthening Treatment Services

State of Nevada

Department of Health and Human Services

Bureau of Behavior Health Wellness and Prevention

2025 Problem Gambling Treatment

Request for Application

REVOLVING ACCOUNT FOR THE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF PROBLEM GAMBLING

NOTE: This document is available online at

http://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/ProblemGambling/Problem_Gambling_Services_(PGS)/

Nevada Department of Public and Behavioral Health
Bureau of Behavior Health Wellness and Prevention
2025 RFA PROBLEM GAMBLING TREATMENT SERVICES

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Nevada Department of Human Services
Bureau of Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention

Problem Gambling Treatment Services

Provider Manual



SFY 2027

Version 1.0: Approved by the Problem Gambling Advisory Committee
May 13, 2026

Department of Human Services
Helping people. It's who we are and what we do.

Nevada DHS Funded | Program Review Report | Date Review Completed: 3/11/26
Problem Gambling Treatment Services | Statement of Findings and Recommended Actions

Dr. Robert Hunter International Problem Gambling Center

FINDINGS SUMMARY

Drawing on program data from three sources, including the defined DHS gambling treatment performance standards as outlined below, an onsite program review (Appendix A), and UNLV client follow-up research (Appendix B), the overarching conclusion is that the Dr. Robert Hunter International Problem Gambling Center (PGC) satisfies all critical DHS problem gambling provider standards and provides valuable services to the community through the use of a well-designed program, professional staff, and fostering a supportive recovery community. PGC services continue to expand, and program

Nevada DHS Funded | Statement of Findings and Recommended Actions | Date Review Completed: 3/12/26
Problem Gambling Treatment Services

Mental Health Counseling and Consulting

annualized, they are on
last year that are not re
and staff, and growth i
barriers to implementa
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2026, which is expecte
gambling treatment ser

FINDINGS SUMMARY

Drawing on program data from three sources, including the defined DHS gambling treatment performance standards as outlined below, an onsite program review (Appendix A), and UNLV client follow-up research (Appendix B) — the overarching conclusion is that Mental Health Counseling and Consulting satisfies all critical DHS problem gambling provider standards and delivers valuable, high-quality gambling treatment services to the surrounding community. On average, MHCC sees three to four new clients monthly; annualized, they are on track to see 43 new clients this year, steady with the prior yea
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CORRECTIVE ACT

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CORRECTIVE ACTIO

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RECOMMENDATION

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- Consider successi
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- Encounter for all t
service type. Exam

Nevada DHS Funded | Program Review Report | Date Review Completed: 5/22/26
Problem Gambling Treatment Services | Statement of Findings and Recommended Actions

Birches Health

FINDINGS SUMMARY

Birches Health joined the Nevada DHS-funded gambling treatment system in July of 2025. The present report presents findings from the first program review conducted by DHS Problem Gambling Services for Birches Health. Because Birches Health has been providing gambling treatment services in Nevada for less than one year, program review data were limited to a review of client files and an assessment of Birches Health's adherence to the defined DHS gambling treatment provider standards as described in Appendix A. Future program reports will include a review of past year program data related to gambling treatment performance benchmarks defined in the Nevada DHS Gambling Treatment Provider Manual. The overarching conclusion is that the Birches Health services provided in Nevada satisfy all critical DHS problem gambling provider standards and provide valuable services to the community through a well-designed program, professional staff, and a supportive recovery community. While many missing components were noted in older records, Birches Health has implemented substantial updates to its documentation process in recent months, meeting nearly all required fields.

RECOMMENDATIONS

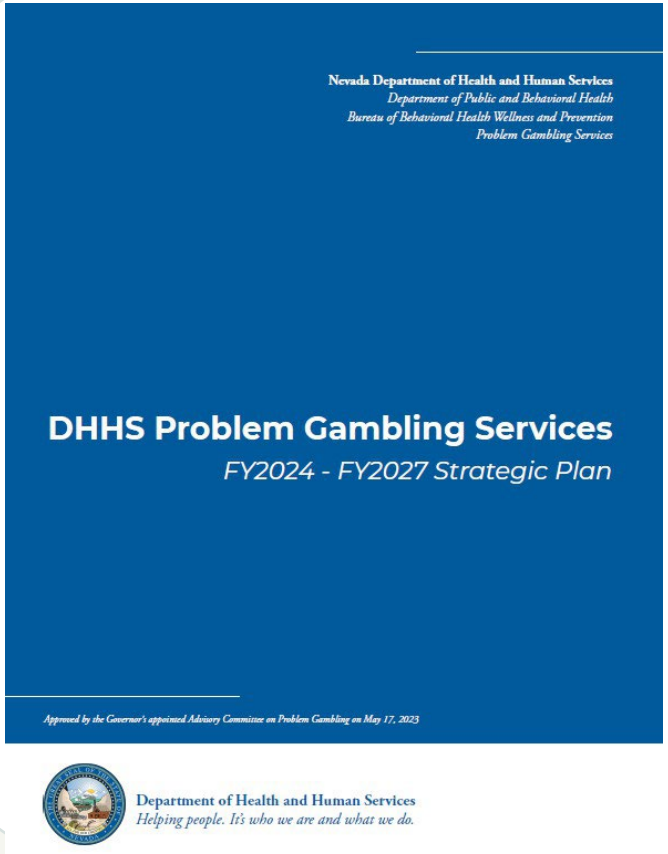
Overall, procedures and clinical documentation for Birches Health clinicians are viewed as very good. There are no corrective actions noted. Recommendations to improve compliance and documentation standards include:

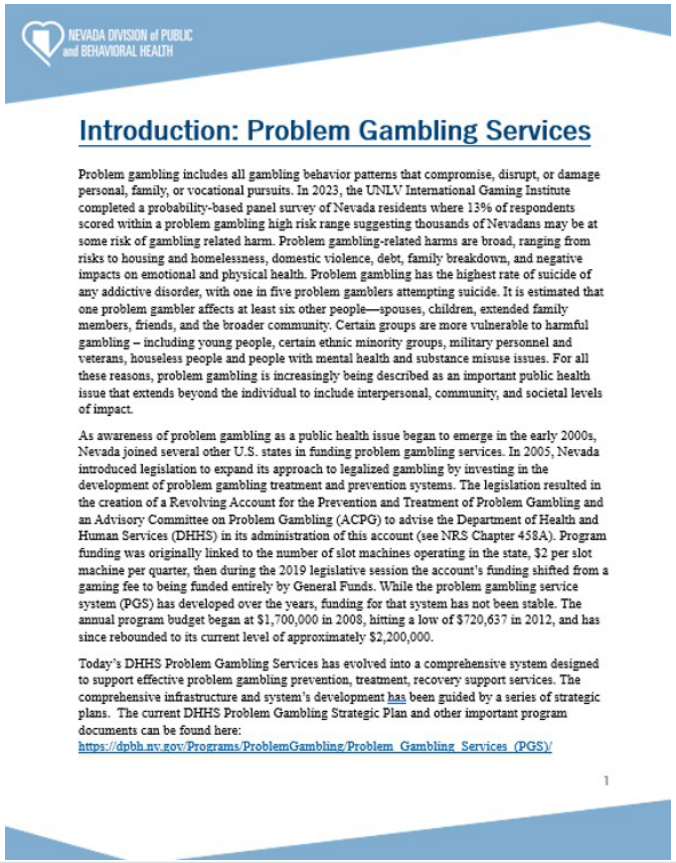
- **Clinical Documentation Practices**
  - Producing a clinical summary of the assessment and documenting that it was reviewed with clients. This may include a concise clinical overview that summarizes the client's presenting concerns, behavioral health history, current symptoms, psychosocial factors, risk assessment findings, strengths, and initial diagnostic impressions.
  - Client review of and agreement to treatment plans should be signed. Given telehealth limitations in acquiring signatures, clinicians may add a note that the plan was reviewed and the client agrees. Additionally, treatment plans should be reviewed at a minimum of every 90 days, which should be documented.
- **Clinic Policies & Forms**

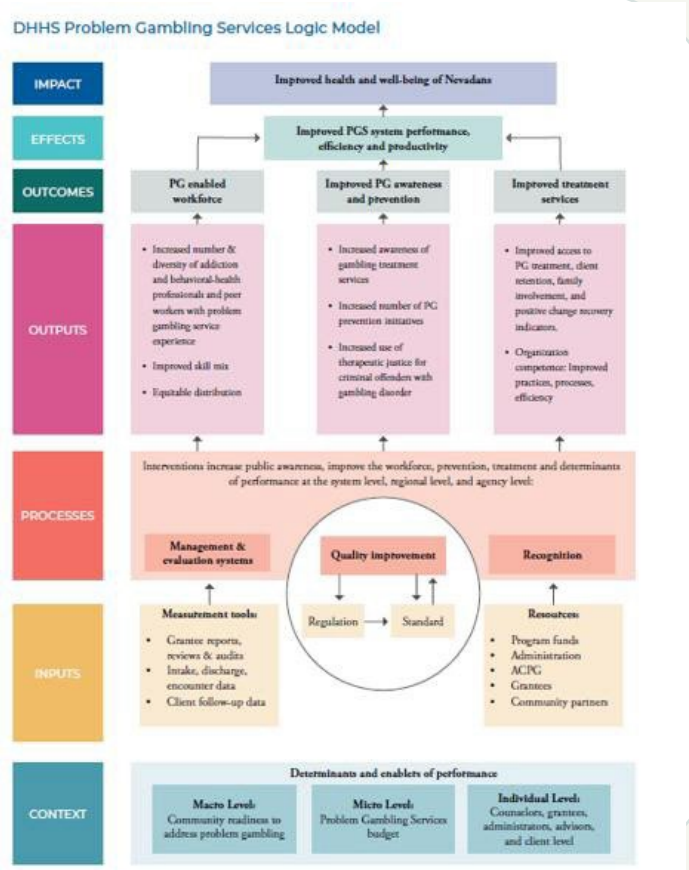
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Strengthening service quality, consistency, and accountability

Supporting Strategic Planning







Supporting strategic direction and coordinated implementation

FY 2027 Roadmap |Priority Initiatives

A coordinated year of integration, planning, and system improvement

01 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INTEGRATION

Increase behavioral health workforce readiness to address gambling behaviors.

- Support gambling-harm screening and referral requirements for BHCEN-certified agencies
- Present the initiative at the November Behavioral Health Conference
- Develop implementation supports, including agency toolkits

02 STRATEGIC PLANNING

Launch: November 2026

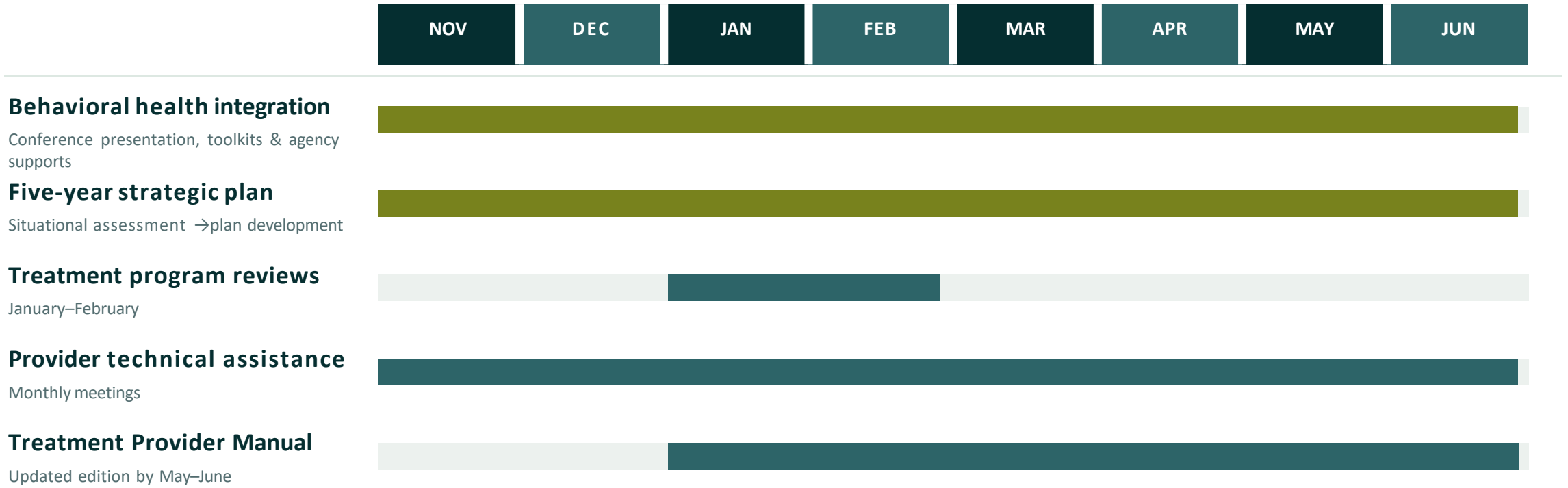
Begin with a situational assessment, then engage in planning and development of a new five-year problem gambling services strategic plan.

Target completion: June 2027

DPBH sets direction and approves priorities; PGS provides research, coordination, and implementation support.

FY 2027 Roadmap |Deliverables & Cadence

Key milestones and ongoing support through June 2027



Milestones are proposed; timing and deliverables will be coordinated with DPBH.

OUR WORKING RELATIONSHIP

Working Alongside DPBH

Clear roles. Shared commitment. Coordinated action.

DPBH LEADS

Direction, decisions & accountability

- Sets priorities and policy direction
- Makes decisions and approves actions
- Oversees implementation and stewardship

PGS SUPPORTS

Expertise, capacity & implementation

- Augments administrative and technical capacity
- Provides specialized guidance and analysis
- Supports planning, reviews and implementation

ONE MISSION. COMPLEMENTARY ROLES. STRONGER SERVICES.

DPBH directs the work; PGS works alongside staff to help turn agency priorities into results.

THANK YOU

Working alongside DPBH to strengthen Nevada's problem gambling services.

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