



www.RenzCenter.org

ADMINISTRATION

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(847) 742-3545
Fax: (847) 697-5583

OUTPATIENT OFFICES

Two American Way
Elgin, IL 60120
(847) 742-3545
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TDD: (847) 742-0242

309 Walnut Street
St. Charles, IL 60174
(630) 513-6886
Fax: (630) 513-6892

1535 Burgundy Parkway
Streamwood, IL 60107
(630) 837-6445
Fax: (630) 837-7184

Passage Program
Two American Way
Elgin, IL 60120
(847) 742-3545
Fax: (847) 697-5685

PREVENTION OFFICE

One American Way
Elgin, IL 60120
(847) 742-3545
Fax: (847) 697-2719

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE SERVICES

One American Way
Elgin, IL 60120
(847) 742-4033
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*Restoring Hope &
Recovering Lives . . .*

*For A Healthier, Safer
Community*



February 23, 2010

Dear Editor:

As Illinois legislators consider the financial ramifications of slot machines in local bars, residents need to reflect on the effects it will have on themselves and our community. From young adults to retired seniors, Americans already spend more on gambling than all other recreation combined. And while many people can gamble safely without the worry of an addiction, a small percentage suffer enormous social, economic and psychological problems. As executive director for Renz Addiction Counseling Center, I have witnessed the devastation a gambling addiction can cause. I've seen clients lose their homes, employment, family, and self-respect.

During National Problem Gambling Awareness Week, March 7-13, I encourage everyone who gambles to ask themselves two questions:

1. Have I ever lied about how much I gamble?
2. Have I ever unsuccessfully attempted to reduce my gambling?

If you answered yes to either of the above questions, I encourage you to take advantage of Renz Center's free gambling assessment on March 10, from 1-3 p.m., at Two American Way in Elgin. Early gambling symptoms are not always easily recognizable, and the assessment will help determine if you have a gambling problem. For more information on Renz Center's problem gambling services, visit www.RenzCenter.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jerry Skogmo', is written over a circular stamp or seal.

Jerry Skogmo
Executive Director
Renz Addiction Counseling Center, Elgin, IL
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www.RenzCenter.org