

Media Release

14/10/15

Tassie youth get on board Responsible Gambling Awareness Week

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Relationships Australia Tasmania (RA Tas) will be at Launceston College on Thursday (15/10/15) as part of Responsible Gambling Awareness Week 2015, which runs from 12-18 October and aims to support to the concept of gambling responsibly.

RA Tas Manager Early Intervention Services, Deb Burden, says: "Young people are increasingly at risk due to the accessibility of gambling online on their phones, tablets and other devices. Our event at Launceston College will involve about 200 students, and we're interested in young people's perception of gambling as well as raising awareness about how gambling can negatively affect relationships".

Students participating in the event will have the chance to try their skills on a number of games, including virtual reality and sensory games. "We understand that there are a range of factors that influence gambling and gaming for young people," explains Deb Burden. "Our aim is to make sure that young people have strategies to deal with this, including taking regular breaks, setting limits and walking away when it's no longer fun."

Media Opportunity

12.30pm - 1.30pm for interviews and photos
Launceston College campus; 107-119 Paterson St, Launceston
Contact: Deb Burden on 0438 759 342

RA Tas provides a free, confidential Gamblers Help service available to anyone in Tasmania who has concerns related to problem gambling.

The service provides information, education and support tailored to the needs of individuals, their partners and family members. Support includes individual, relationship and family counselling as well as facilitated group support meetings and self-exclusions from gambling venues. Financial counselling is also available.

The service aims to reduce the harm associated with problem gambling through supporting the client's wish to make changes relating to problem gambling behaviours and other related problems.

The Gamblers Help services are offered in partnership with Anglicare Tasmania and are funded by the Tasmanian Government through the Community Support Levy.

For more information about Responsible Gambling Awareness Week, please visit www.rgaw.com.au

If you are concerned about your own gambling or someone else's you can get support or answers to your questions from Gamblers Help.

- 24/7 online services at www.gamblinghelponline.org.au
- 24/7 phone service, offering advice, information and telephone counselling on 1800 858 858
- In person with a Gamblers Help Counsellor
- Relationships Australia on 1300 364 277
- Anglicare Tasmania on 1800 243 232

Relationships Australia Tasmania is a leading provider of relationship support services. We aim to support all Tasmanians to achieve positive and respectful relationships.

Media enquiries: please contact Debra Burden, Manager Early Intervention Services North on 0438 759 342