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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AGPA ANNOUNCES GROUP THERAPY TRAINING SUPPORT FOR CLINICIANS AND CHAPLAINS WORKING WITH ACTIVE MILITARY AND VETERANS

NEW YORK, October 12, 2015— The American Group Psychotherapy Association (AGPA) welcomes all clinicians and chaplains working with active military and veterans to its 72nd Annual Training Week in New York City, entitled “Transformation in Group: From Isolation to Connection.” In recognition of the care and service such individuals have been providing to the men and women who have served, current and past, in missions throughout the world, AGPA is offering a 35% registration discount for this conference as well as opportunities for tuition support through the Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health, the organization’s philanthropic arm.

“Groups have a long history of successfully working with active troops and veteran populations, dating back to World War II,” said Les Greene, Ph.D., CGP, FAGPA, AGPA President. “We are privileged to be able to provide this training and support to those who are helping the men and women of the U.S. military, veterans and their families.”

There are a variety of educational opportunities on the program with relevance for military personnel and veterans’ hospital and agency staff, including:

- **“Personal Exploration of Generational Social Trauma and Healing”** – a two-day institute led by Elaine J. Cooper, LCSW, PhD, CGP, FAGPA.
- **“Developing a Post-Trauma Identity: Group as a Source of Integration and Healing”** – a two-day institute led by Suzanne B. Phillips, PsyD, ABPP, CGP, FAGPA.
- **“Silence and Trauma in an Inpatient Day Care Group”** – a colloquy presented by Sharon Sagi Berg, MA
- **“A Systems-Centered View of Trauma and Annihilation Anxiety in the Systems of Person, Groups and Large Groups”** – an open session with Les Greene, PhD, CGP, LFAGPA, Yvonne Agazarian, EdD, CGP, DLFAGPA, Susan Gantt, PhD, ABPP, CGP, DFAGPA and Phyllis Goltra, PhD.
- **“Violence in America: Therapists Join the Dialogue and Search for Solutions”** – an open session with Robert Klein, PhD, ABPP, CGP, DLFAGPA, Victor Schermer, MA, LFAGPA, Bonnie Buchele, PhD, ABPP, CGP, DLFAGPA, Leslie Lothstein, PhD, ABPP, CGP, Suzanne Phillips, PsyD, ABPP, CGP, FAGPA and Nina Thomas, PhD, ABPP, CGP.
- **“Dancing with Our Disabilities: Affirming Group Experiences for Clients and Therapists with Disabilities and Chronic Health Conditions”** – a half-day workshop led by Wendy Freedman, PhD, CGP, Leslie Klein, PhD, and Katheryne Kopp Miller, PsyD, HSPP.

- **“Catharsis versus Containment? Approaches to Emotion in Empirically Supported Group Treatments for PTSD”** – a half-day workshop led by Barbara Niles, PhD, William Unger, PhD and Melissa Wattenberg, PhD
- **“Secure Presence~A Model for Trauma Group Psychotherapy: A Case Study of Spouses of Former Prisoners of War and PTSD Veterans”** – a workshop led by Ann-Keren Neeman Kantor, MA
- **“Group Psychotherapy for Treatment-Resistant PTSD in Active Duty Army Soldiers“** – an open session led by Beverly Sivley, LCSW and Joseph Wise, MD.
- **“Narrating the Unsayable: Enactment, Repair and Creative Multiplicity in Group Psychotherapy”** – an open session led by Robert Grossmark, PhD
- **“The Group Inside: A Performance and Discussion that Explores Transgenerational Trauma and Its Implications for Group Treatment”** an open session with Jeffrey Hudson, MEd, LPC, CGP, FAGPA, Khleber Chapman Attwell, MD, MPH and Gabriela Kohen, MFA
- **“Using Self-Defense Training and Group Therapy at a College Counseling Center to Treat Female Trauma Survivors”** – a workshop led by Karen Chasen, JD, Jennifer Vogel-Davis, PsyD and Lisa Weinberg, PhD.

AGPA’s 2016 Annual Training attracts over 1,000 group therapists, researchers and scientists from around the world. Group therapists of all disciplines will gather to learn the most effective techniques in working with a variety of populations in groups, an increasingly utilized modality due to its effectiveness and cost-effectiveness, particularly in today’s economic climate. The theme reflects the meeting’s emphasis on the power of groups to connect individuals, families and communities in meaningful ways to effect change on personal and societal levels. For more information, contact AGPA at 877-668-AGPA (2472) or visit www.agpa.org.

EDITOR’S NOTE: Media are invited to attend other select sessions of the AGPA 2016 Annual Training. To register, please send an e-mail request to dfairman@agpa.org or call 877-668-AGPA (2472).

About AGPA

The American Group Psychotherapy Association is the foremost professional association dedicated to the field of group psychotherapy, operating through a tri-partite structure: AGPA, a professional and educational organization; the Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health, its philanthropic arm; and the International Board for Certification of Group Psychotherapists, a standard setting and certifying body. This multidisciplinary association has approximately 2,500 members, including psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, nurses, clinical mental health counselors, marriage and family therapists, pastoral counselors and creative arts therapists, many of whom have been recognized as specialists through the Certified Group Psychotherapist credential. The association has 26 local and regional societies located across the country. Its members are experienced mental health professionals who lead psychotherapy groups and various non-clinical groups. Many are organizational specialists who work with businesses, not-for-profit organizations, communities and other "natural" groups to help them improve their functioning.

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