



AMERICAN GROUP
PSYCHOTHERAPY ASSOCIATION
GROUP FOUNDATION
FOR ADVANCING MENTAL HEALTH
INTERNATIONAL BOARD FOR
CERTIFICATION OF GROUP
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GROUP FOUNDATION FOR ADVANCING MENTAL HEALTH ANNOUNCES THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE KATHY AND KENT RIDER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

NEW YORK, May 31, 2017 – The Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health announced today the establishment of the Kathy and Kent Rider Scholarship Fund. The fund will support a scholarship for the AGPA Annual Meeting week for a clinical social worker who is a new professional or student. Applications will be accepted as part of the annual Foundation scholarship program with the first award to be given for the 2018 Houston Annual Meeting.

Kathy Rider, LCSW, BCD, CGP, FAGPA is an AGPA Fellow and long-time supporter of the Group Foundation who has spent the last fifty years serving adults, families, couples, children and adolescents with severe mental health issues. She has been dedicated to public service in addition to her private practice, working primarily with organizations that serve the most vulnerable citizens in Austin, Texas. The establishment of the scholarship as a memorial to her husband Kent who passed away in September 2016 combines their support of the Foundation with their desire to address the need for comprehensive group psychotherapy training for new professionals and students.

“Group psychotherapy has been an integral part of my clinical social work practice and it requires specialized training that new professionals and students often do not have the opportunity to obtain” said Ms. Rider. “I am proud to be able to endow this scholarship in Kent’s memory through the Group Foundation in order to help students and new professionals receive this training through AGPA, my professional home.”

“The Group Foundation is grateful to Kathy Rider for her generosity in establishing this scholarship fund,” said Karen Travis, LCSW, BCD, CGP, FAGPA, Chairwoman of the Group Foundation. “Providing scholarships for group therapy training is a program at the heart of the Foundation’s mission and this endowment shows great leadership in helping to make it happen.”

Scholarship application and submission guidelines are available at www.agpa.org; the deadline to be considered for a named scholarship such as the Kathy and Kent Rider Scholarship is November 1, 2017. You can also visit the website for more information on this and other scholarships, the Foundation’s programs or to contribute to the Foundation. If you are interested in finding out more about endowing a

scholarship or other program, please contact the Foundation office at dfeirman@agpa.org or by phone at 877-668-AGPA (2472).

About AGPA and the Group Foundation

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.

The Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health is a philanthropic organization that is committed to the fact that "Groups Change Lives" and believes in the power of group interventions to improve people's quality of life. The Group Foundation supports group psychotherapy education, research, training, and information dissemination for the benefit of the public and professional communities. Among the Foundation's most vital roles is the recognition of excellence, promise, and vision by honoring those individuals and groups who have demonstrated these qualities with awards and scholarships.

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