



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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GROUP FOUNDATION FOR ADVANCING MENTAL HEALTH WILL PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR TRAINING IN GROUP-BASED MENTAL HEALTH INTERVENTIONS IN HOUSTON

NEW YORK, September 12, 2017—The Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health is now accepting applications for its Scholarship and Awards Program for the February 26 – March 3, 2018 Annual Training of the American Group Psychotherapy Association (AGPA). This robust program is offered annually through the Group Foundation and supports the training of group therapists, including students and new professionals, public and private agency personnel, veterans’ hospital and center staff, military clinicians and chaplains, and others providing mental health services to the public. The **early decision deadline is November 1, 2017**; applications are accepted after this date for review on a funds-available basis. For the first time, applications are being submitted [online](#) this year. The Group Foundation Scholarship Program is supported by private donations and grants; you can [contribute online](#) or contact the Foundation office.

“Many of those providing mental health services to underserved populations work in settings without the resources to support staff training,” said Karen S. Travis, LCSW, BCD, CGP, FAGPA, Chairwoman of the Group Foundation. “The Group Foundation is pleased to be able to help these professionals receive training and support so that they can increase their use of groups in providing services to those in need.”

Past recipients have attested to the impact of the scholarship on their lives and that of their clients:

“The six days I spent in New York were so enlightening for me that I cannot easily express it in words. To simplify it: I will forever be changed by the experience. I started this journey not completely understanding the magnitude of group therapy, but I left being a prime example of how this process can change a person’s life.”

“Thank you with all my heart. I want you to know that I am using all I’ve learned and paying it forward to the men and women who serve in our country’s military.”

“I provide individual and group therapy to Department of Child and Family Services youth-in-care ages 12 to 17. At the annual meeting I was able to attend several workshops on group work with adolescents. I also attended a workshop on introducing improv activities into group work which has proven to be infinitely valuable. My clients enjoy the activities and the processing after is more open and smooth.”

AGPA's 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 Meeting theme, "The Healing Power of Groups in a Fragmented World," 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 select sessions of the AGPA 2018 Annual Training. To register, please send an e-mail request to dfeirman@agpa.org or call 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 21 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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