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GROUP FOUNDATION
FOR ADVANCING MENTAL HEALTH
INTERNATIONAL BOARD FOR
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GROUP FOUNDATION FOR ADVANCING MENTAL HEALTH AWARDS TWO RESEARCH GRANTS: GROUP THERAPY FOR RESETTLED REFUGEES AND FACTORS IMPACTING THE SUCCESS OF GROUP PROGRAMMING AT PSYCHOLOGY INTERNSHIP SITES

NEW YORK, June 18, 2018— The Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health announced that it has awarded two research grants this year: group therapy as a mental health intervention for resettled refugees and factors impacting the success of group programming at psychology internship sites.

“Together for Wellness: Group Psychotherapy for Resettled Refugees” will be conducted by principal investigator Sarah E. Bledsoe, PhD, MPhil, MSW, Associate Professor, School of Social Work, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill along with Co-Investigator, Josh Hinson, MSW, LCSW, Clinical Assistant Professor and Program Director, Refugee Wellness Initiative, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Resettled refugees typically face barriers to accessing mental health screenings. This study will look to compare two manualized group psychotherapy models, Group Interpersonal Psychotherapy (IPT-G) and Community Adjustment Support Group (CAS-G), to address their feasibility, efficacy and implementation for this population.

“Factors Impacting the Success of Group Programming at Psychology Internship Sites: A National Survey” will be undertaken by principal investigator Lisa Denton, PhD, Assistant Professor of Psychology, State University of New York at Fredonia along with Co-Investigator Joshua Gross, PhD, ABPP, CGP, FAGPA, Director of Group Services at Florida State University. This study will look to examine the role of expertise and training in contributing to the success of group therapy programs at psychology doctoral internship sites.

“The Group Foundation, as part of its mission to help change lives through group psychotherapy, is pleased to be able to support these valuable research studies on helping refugees and enhancing group therapy programs,” said Karen S. Travis, LCSW, BCD, CGP, FAGPA, Chairwoman of the Group Foundation. “They have tremendous potential to impact the field of group therapy and society.”

The Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health annually supports research projects designed to broaden the available body of knowledge in evidence-based group psychotherapy clinical practice. For more information on research projects supported by the Group Foundation and grant opportunities,

please contact Diane Feirman, CAE, at (212) 477-2677 or via e-mail at dfeirman@agpa.org or visit our website at www.agpa.org.

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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