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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **AGPA ANNOUNCES GROUP THERAPY TRAINING SUPPORT FOR MILITARY CLINICIANS AND CHAPLAINS**

**NEW YORK, Jan. 18, 2008**— The American Group Psychotherapy Association (AGPA) welcomes all military clinicians and chaplains to its 65th Annual Meeting entitled "Passion, Power and Politics: Dynamic Interplay in Groups," Feb. 18-23, 2008 at the Hilton Washington Hotel in Washington, DC. In recognition of the care and service such military personnel have been providing to the men and women serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and missions throughout the world, AGPA is offering them full tuition scholarships through the Group Psychotherapy Foundation, the organization's charitable arm or a 50% registration discount for this conference if they prefer to apply and register directly.

"The AGPA Annual Meeting offers a week of group therapy training opportunities, as well as a time for those in the helping fields to rejuvenate themselves through a variety of fun-filled and self-care events," said Elizabeth Knight, M.S.W., CGP, FAGPA, AGPA President. "It is our pleasure, honor and privilege to provide this support to the men and women of the U.S. military."

There are a variety of educational opportunities on the program with relevance for military personnel, including a two-day training course on "Using Groups for Trauma Intervention" which teaches techniques in working with specific populations following traumatic events, including first responders and the military.

AGPA's 2008 Annual Meeting attracts more than 1,000 group therapists, researchers and scientists from around the United States. Group therapists of all disciplines will gather to learn the most effective techniques in working with a variety of populations and to further their professional development with this powerful and effective treatment modality. The theme, Passion, Power and Politics, reflects the meeting's emphasis on the dynamics that occur in groups, whether small or large, public or private, that can effect change on micro and macro levels. For more information, contact AGPA at (212) 477-2677 or visit [www.agpa.org](http://www.agpa.org).

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Media are invited to attend other select sessions of the AGPA 2008 Annual Meeting. To register, please send an e-mail request to [dfeirman@agpa.org](mailto:dfeirman@agpa.org) or call 212.477.2677.

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## *About AGPA*

The American Group Psychotherapy Association is the oldest and largest professional association dedicated to the field of group psychotherapy, operating through a tri-partite structure: AGPA, a professional and educational organization; the Group Psychotherapy Foundation, its philanthropic arm; and the National Registry of Certified Group Psychotherapists, a standard setting and certifying body. This multidisciplinary association has approximately 3,000 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 31 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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