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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY FOUNDATION LUNCHEON IN SAN DIEGO, CA CELEBRATES SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARD WINNERS AND CONTRIBUTORS FEBRUARY 27, 2010

NEW YORK, Feb. 15, 2010— During the American Group Psychotherapy Association's (AGPA) 67th Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA, February 22-27, the Group Psychotherapy Foundation (GPF), the philanthropic arm of the AGPA, will once again sponsor a luncheon honoring scholarship and award winners, as well as the generous contributors who make the program possible. A myriad of tuition, travel and monetary awards, supporting the training of group therapists and the use of group in communities to effect change, are distributed through the Foundation. A highlight of the celebration will be a performance by Mariachi Real de San Diego, a group dedicated to the traditions of the music and culture of Mexico. Media are invited to attend this event.

Awards being presented include:

- **Suzanne Phillips, Psy.D., ABPP, CGP, FAGPA is receiving the inaugural Social Responsibility Award for her community outreach work on behalf of AGPA and the group psychotherapy community.**
- **The Alonso Award for Excellence in Psychodynamic Group Therapy will be presented to Robin Gayle, Ph.D., MFT for her article "Co-Creating Meaningful Structures within Long-Term Psychotherapy Group Culture."**
- **Marc Schramm, Psy.D., CGP has won the Honor Your Mentor Essay contest for his essay in honor and memory of his mentor, his father Theodore Schramm, M.D.**
- **More than 100 individuals have received scholarships to attend the meeting, supported through endowed scholarship funds and private donations.**

"The Group Psychotherapy Foundation is privileged to honor those whose use of groups in clinical and community settings helps those in need," said Lisa Mahon, Ph.D., CGP, FAGPA, GPF Chairwoman of the Board. "This luncheon is also our opportunity to publicly thank our donors, whose generous

contributions make it possible for us to carry out our mission, including supporting the training of those new to the field.”

This luncheon is a highlight of the AGPA’s 2010 Annual Training in San Diego, CA, February 22-27 at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina. Entitled “A New Decade: Sustaining Our World Through Groups,” this meeting attracts more than 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 effects of well-functioning groups on our global society. 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 2010 Annual Meeting. To register, please send an e-mail request to dfeirman@agpa.org or call 877-668-AGPA (2472).

About AGPA and GPF

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 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.

The Group Psychotherapy Foundation 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 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.