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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AGPA ANNOUNCES GROUP THERAPY TRAINING SUPPORT FOR CLINICIANS AND CHAPLAINS WORKING WITH ACTIVE MILITARY AND VETERANS

NEW YORK, October 22, 2009— The American Group Psychotherapy Association (AGPA) welcomes all clinicians and chaplains working with active military and veterans to its 67th Annual Training Week in San Diego, CA, entitled “A New Decade: Sustaining Our World Through Groups,” Feb. 22-27, 2010 at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina. In recognition of the care and service such individuals have been providing to the men and women who have served, current and past, in missions throughout the world, AGPA is offering a 50% registration discount for this conference as well as opportunities for full tuition scholarships through the Group Psychotherapy Foundation, the organization’s charitable arm.

“The AGPA Annual Training offers high quality training in group interventions, as well as a variety of self-care events so those in the helping fields can rejuvenate themselves,” said Connie Concannon, M.S.W., CGP, FAGPA, AGPA President. “We are privileged to be able to provide this support to those who are supporting the men and women of the U.S. military and veterans.”

There are a variety of educational opportunities on the program with relevance for military personnel and veterans’ hospital and agency staff, including:

- **“Care To Military Caregivers: From Fatigue To Hope & Resiliency”** – a two-day institute which includes self-care techniques and supportive process.
- **“Til Trauma do Us Part: Helping Couples Heal in the Aftermath of Trauma and Combat Stress”** - a workshop addressing the role of a couple’s relationship in the recovery to trauma
- **“Military Mental Health – Treatment Challenges in a Unique Environment”** – led by two military clinicians, this session will provide an overview of the unique stressors and challenges in the military, providing clinicians with much needed information to address the special needs of this population
- **“Group Therapy Application for Returning Veterans”**- this workshop will detail manualized, evidence-based treatments all developed specifically for the unique military population and delivered in group.

- **“Using Groups for Trauma Intervention”** – a two-day course providing in-depth training on the multiple emotional impacts of trauma, as well as a series of group intervention strategies and protocols designed to address the needs of particular populations, e.g., adults, children, organizations, military.

AGPA’s 2010 Annual Training 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 Training. To register, please send an e-mail request to dfeirman@agpa.org or call 877-668-AGPA (2472).

About AGPA

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.

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