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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**NATIONAL REGISTRY OF CERTIFIED GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPISTS PRESENTS
2010 AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN THE
FIELD OF GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY TO THE SYSTEMS-CENTERED TRAINING AND
RESEARCH INSTITUTE (SCTRI)**

NEW YORK, January 28, 2010 — The National Registry of Certified Group Psychotherapists will be presenting the 2010 Award for Outstanding Contributions in Education and Training in the Field of Group Psychotherapy to The Systems-Centered Training and Research Institute (SCTRI), an international training Institute based in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The presentation will take place during the AGPA Annual Meeting in San Diego, CA February 22-27 at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina. This award was established in 2001 and is given annually to an individual or organization whose work in group training and/or education contributes to excellence in the practice of group psychotherapy.

The SCTRI was founded in 1995 and is based on the theory and methods developed by Yvonne Agazarian, Ed.D, CGP, DLFAGPA. In just the past year, the Institute has offered almost 200 continuing education events in its training centers and association in such places as San Francisco, Boston, Philadelphia, London, Stockholm and Copenhagen. Beginning as a training center for clinical mental health professionals, the Institute now offers programs for consultants and educators. Graduates of the Institute can be found working in inpatient and outpatient settings, college counseling centers, schools, medical residencies and teaching university-level group courses in the United States and Europe.

“The scope and excellence of the SCTRI’s programs are a direct result of the dedication and experience of Dr. Agazarian and the Institute’s faculty,” said Sherrie L. Smith, CSW-R, CGP, FAGPA, NRCGP Chairwoman. “Graduates attest to how the Institute has transformed their lives and clinical practices, which captures the essence of this Award.”

Past recipients of the award are as follows:

2009 Robert Klein, Ph.D., ABPP, CGP, DLFAGPA

2008 Center for Group Studies in New York City

2007 Walter Stone, M.D., CGP, DFAGPA and One-Year Training Program in Group Psychotherapy of the Eastern Group Psychotherapy Society

2006 Marvin Aronson, PhD, CGP FAGPA

2005 Wendi Cross, Ph.D., CGP and Saul Scheidlinger, Ph.D., CGP, DLFAGPA

2004 K. Roy MacKenzie, M.D., FRCP, CGP, DFAGPA

2003 Gary Burlingame, Ph.D., CGP

2002 Henry Spitz, M.D., CGP, FAGPA

This award presentation 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.

About the National Registry of Certified Group Psychotherapists

The National Registry of Certified Group Psychotherapists is a standard setting and certifying body. This multidisciplinary credentialing body has certified over 1,500 clinicians, including psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, nurses, clinical mental health counselors, marriage and family therapists, pastoral counselors and creative arts therapists who are recognized as group specialists through the Certified Group Psychotherapist credential.

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 over 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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