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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES NEW “CARING FOR THE CAREGIVER” TRACK AT ANNUAL MEETING IN WASHINGTON DC FEBRUARY 18-23

NEW YORK, January 24, 2008 — During the American Group Psychotherapy Association’s (AGPA) 2008 Annual Meeting, February 18-23 at the Hilton Washington Hotel, a new training track is being launched entitled “Caring for the Caregiver.” This track, which focuses on self-care for the therapist, highlights and builds upon the experience of renewal that is an integral part of the AGPA Annual Meeting.

“This track provides an opportunity for clinicians to focus on training opportunities that rejuvenate and refresh them,” said Elizabeth Knight, M.S.W., CGP, FAGPA, AGPA President. “AGPA’s meeting has long had a reputation as a place for self-care as well as learning and this track will benefit those who want to focus on that aspect.”

The institutes, workshops and open sessions that constitute this track are those which have appeal beyond just group psychotherapy, contributing to all areas of professional work and personal lives. The goal is for mental health professionals to return home energized and full of new and creative strategies that can be applied to their work and personal lives. Clinical work can be emotionally depleting and the sense of renewal that can come from the unique format of the AGPA meeting is important, for the clinicians as well as their clients.

This track is a highlight of the AGPA’s 2008 Annual Meeting in Washington DC, Feb. 18-23 at the Hilton Washington Hotel. Entitled “Passion, Power and Politics: Dynamic Interplay in Groups,” this 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.

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 or call 212.477.2677.

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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