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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR SCHOLARSHIPS TO ATTEND FEBRUARY 16-21, 2009 TRAINING IN CHICAGO, IL

NEW YORK, Oct. 3, 2008—The Group Psychotherapy Foundation is now accepting applications for its Scholarship and Awards Program for the February 16-21, 2009 Annual Meeting of the American Group Psychotherapy Association (AGPA). This robust program is offered annually through the Foundation and supports the training of group therapists, including students and new professionals, public and private agency personnel, veterans' hospital and center staff, military clinicians and chaplains and others providing mental health services to the public. The early consideration deadline is November 1, 2008; applications are accepted after this date for review on a funds-available basis. The application and submission guidelines are available at the organizations' website at <http://www.agpa.org/stdnt/gpfschawds.html> or by calling the office at 877-668-AGPA (2472). The GPF Scholarship Program is supported by private donations and grants; to contribute please visit the website at <http://member.agpa.org/scriptcontent/index.cfm?gpf=1> or contact the Foundation office.

“Many of those providing mental health services to those in need work in settings without the resources to support staff training,” said Lisa Mahon, Ph.D., CGP, FAGPA, Chairwoman of the GPF. “The Foundation is pleased to be able to help these professionals receive training and support to enhance the services they can provide to the public.”

AGPA's 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, “Strong Group Foundations: Building Lasting Communities,” reflects the meeting's emphasis on the positive effects of well-functioning groups on society. For more information, contact AGPA at 877-668-AGPA (2472) or visit www.agpa.org.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Media are invited to attend select sessions of the AGPA 2009 Annual Meeting. 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 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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