



Media Contact:

Diane C. Feirman, CAE
877-668-AGPA (2472)
dfeirman@agpa.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

NEW YORK, February 18, 2017— The American Group Psychotherapy Association (AGPA) welcomes all clinicians and chaplains working with active military and veterans to its 73rd Annual Training Week in New York City, entitled “Connecting, Educating, and Leading for 75 Years: The Theory, Science, and Practice of Group Therapy.” 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 35% registration discount for this conference as well as opportunities for tuition support through the Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health, the organization’s philanthropic arm.

“Groups have a long history of successfully working with active troops and veteran populations, dating back to World War II,” said Eleanor Counselman, Ed.D., CGP, LFAGPA, AGPA President. “We are privileged to be able to provide this training and support to those who are helping the men and women of the U.S. military, veterans and their families.”

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

- **“Coming Alive in Group: Mourning Loss by Connecting with your Tribe”** – a two-day institute led by Mary Sussillo, LCSW, BCD, CGP, FAGPA.
- **“Restoration versus Revenge: Narrating and Integrating Trauma in Group”** – a two-day institute led by Suzanne B. Phillips, PsyD, ABPP, CGP, FAGPA.
- **“Using Group Process in the Personal Exploration of Generational Trauma and Healing”** – a two-day institute led by Elaine J. Cooper, LCSW, PhD, CGP, FAGPA.
- **“Qigong Practice Focused Group: Transformative Processes for People who Experienced Traumatic Loss”** – a colloquy with Nurit Gafni, MA.
- **“Meaning of Psychotropic Medications in Trauma Patients,”** – an open session with Amy Yang, MD.
- **“A Systems-Centered View of Trauma and Annihilation Anxiety in the Systems of Person, Small Groups, and Large Groups”** – an open session with Les Greene, PhD, CGP, LFAGPA, Yvonne Agazarian, EdD, CGP, DLFAGPA, Susan Gantt, PhD, ABPP, CGP, DFAGPA and Phyllis Goltra, PhD.
- **“Military Women Reveal Barriers and Pathways to Healthcare: A Qualitative Group Study** – an open session with Robert Klein, PhD, ABPP, CGP, DLFAGPA, Jessica Koblenz, PsyD, CGP, Madelyn Miller, PhD, LCSW, CGP and Suzanne Phillips, PsyD, ABPP, CGP, FAGPA.

- **“The Group Inside: A Performance and Discussion that Explores Transgenerational Trauma and Its Implications for Group Treatment”** an open session with Jeffrey Hudson, MEd, LPC, CGP, FAGPA, Khleber Chapman Attwell, MD, MPH and Gabriela Kohen, MFA.
- **“Waking History: Examining Violence and Betrayal through Greek Drama to Group Psychotherapy”** – an open session with Nina Thomas, PhD, ABPP, CGP, Bryan Doerries, MFA and Craig Haen, PhD, RDT, LCAT, CGP, FAGPA.
- **“Trauma Group Treatment: Big “T” Trauma and Little “t” trauma”** – a workshop with Bonnie Buchele, PhD, ABPP, CGP, DLFAGPA.
- **“Strengthening Attachment by Identifying Transgenerational Loss and Grief”** – a workshop with Mitchell Berman, MA, MS, MFT, CGP.
- **“Collective Trauma and Resilience: The International Perspective”** – a workshop with Domenico Agresta, MA, Jorge Burmeister, MD, Yael Doron, MA, Maurizio Gasseau, PsyD and Thor Kristian Island, MD.
- **“Catharsis versus Containment: Empirically Supported Group Treatments for Handling Emotion in Groups for PTSD”** – a workshop with Barbara Niles, PhD, William Unger, PhD and Melissa Wattenberg, PhD.
- **“What is HE Doing in Here? Challenging Heterosexist and Gender Assumptions in a Female Trauma Group”** – a workshop with Christine Henry, PhD and Jonathan Reeves, MA.
- **“When Living with Trauma is the Essence - Promoting the State of Secure Presence”** – a workshop with Ann Keren Neeman Kantor, MSW.
- **“Swimming in the Flood: Growth After Trauma Professionally and Personally”** – a workshop with Seamus Bhatt-Mackin, MD, CGP.

AGPA’s 2017 Annual Training attracts over 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 celebrates AGPA’s history of 75 years of demonstrating the power of groups to connect individuals, families and communities in meaningful ways to effect change on personal and societal levels. 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 2017 Annual Training. To register, please send an e-mail request to dfeirman@agpa.org or call 877-668-AGPA (2472).

About AGPA

For 75 Years the American Group Psychotherapy Association has been the foremost professional association dedicated to the field of group psychotherapy. It operates through a tri-partite structure: AGPA, a professional and educational organization; the Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health, its philanthropic arm; and the International Board for Certification of Group Psychotherapists, a standard setting and certifying body. This multidisciplinary association has approximately 2,500 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 26 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.