



AMERICAN GROUP  
PSYCHOTHERAPY ASSOCIATION  
GROUP FOUNDATION  
FOR ADVANCING MENTAL HEALTH  
INTERNATIONAL BOARD FOR  
CERTIFICATION OF GROUP  
PSYCHOTHERAPISTS

25 East 21st Street  
Sixth Floor  
New York  
New York 10010  
877.668.AGPA (2472)  
[www.agpa.org](http://www.agpa.org)

---

Media Contact:  
Diane C. Feirman, CAE  
877-668-AGPA (2472)  
[dfeirman@agpa.org](mailto:dfeirman@agpa.org)

---

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### GROUP FOUNDATION FOR ADVANCING MENTAL HEALTH WILL PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR TRAINING IN GROUP-BASED MENTAL HEALTH INTERVENTIONS IN LOS ANGELES

**NEW YORK, September 12, 2018**—The Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health is now accepting applications for its Scholarship and Awards Program for AGPA Connect, February 25 - March 2, 2019 in Los Angeles. This robust program is offered annually through the Group 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 decision deadline is November 1, 2018**; applications are accepted after this date for review on a funds-available basis. Applications are submitted [online](#). The Group Foundation Scholarship Program is supported by private donations and grants; you can [contribute online](#) or contact the Foundation office.

“Many of those providing mental health services to underserved populations work in settings without the resources to support staff training,” said Karen S. Travis, LCSW, BCD, CGP, FAGPA, Chairwoman of the Group Foundation. “The Group Foundation is pleased to be able to help these professionals receive training and support so that they can increase their use of groups in helping those in need.”

Past recipients have attested to the impact of the scholarship on their lives and that of their clients:

*“Now back on the east coast and in my small community mental health clinic, I feel more connected and emotionally attuned to my clients and groups. There is no doubt I have increased my group leadership skillset.”*

*“In my work, I help direct adult group therapy at a community mental health center. In addition to running several groups, I plan for program development and new initiatives. I supervise trainees in their group work and I promote referrals for new clients. I love my role in serving the community, and the generosity of the Foundation makes it possible for me to attend the whole week.”*

*“I cannot fully express with words the gratitude that I have for receiving a scholarship to this conference. Without it, I would not have had the opportunity or ability to grow personally and professionally in these ways, nor would I have had the courage to launch my own therapy group for marginalized people here in my hometown.”*

AGPA Connect 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 Meeting theme, "Building Bridges of Connection Through Group," reflects the meeting's emphasis on 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](http://www.agpa.org).

EDITOR'S NOTE: Media are invited to attend select sessions of the AGPA Connect 2019. To register, please send an e-mail request to [dfeirman@agpa.org](mailto:dfeirman@agpa.org) or call 877-668-AGPA (2472).

---

### *About AGPA and the Group Foundation*

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 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 2,000 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 21 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.

The Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health is a philanthropic organization that is committed to the fact that "Groups Change Lives" and believes in the power of group interventions to improve people's quality of life. The Group Foundation supports group psychotherapy education, research, training, and information dissemination for the benefit of the public and professional communities. Among the Foundation's most vital roles is the recognition of excellence, promise, and vision by honoring those individuals and groups who have demonstrated these qualities with awards and scholarships.

# # #