



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

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GROUP FOUNDATION FOR ADVANCING MENTAL HEALTH WILL PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR TRAINING IN GROUP-BASED MENTAL HEALTH INTERVENTIONS IN NEW YORK CITY

NEW YORK, September 10, 2019—The Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health is now accepting applications for its Scholarship and Awards Program for AGPA Connect, March 2 – March 7, 2020 in New York City. 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, 2019**; 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:

“I truly feel that the experiences I had at the Institute have continued to benefit me beyond the physical conference space and into my work with the patients I serve. I was able to witness how experienced leaders navigate difficult but necessary conversations while promoting reflection and growth.”

“AGPA and the conference really has changed my life, as a person and as a clinician. It’s with the deepest gratitude and appreciation that I give my thanks for AGPA to allow me to attend the conference through the scholarship fund. I have found a community that’s become my home. It leaves me with such a strong sense of gratitude. Thank for you always for allowing me to be a part of your group.”

“Because of the Group Foundation scholarship, I was able to attend and participate fully in all six days of AGPA Connect. I did my best to squeeze every possible moment of meaning out of that week! I truly experienced significant personal and professional growth through my involvement at AGPA Connect. Through both the institute and conference experiences, I deepened my insight into how and why group works. I came

away from the experience with greater confidence in myself and my profession, and a strong desire to continue my journey in the world of group psychotherapy.”

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, “Group: Growth and Renewal,” 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.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Media are invited to attend select sessions of the AGPA Connect 2020. To register, please send an e-mail request to dfeirman@agpa.org or call 877-668-AGPA (2472).

About AGPA and the Group Foundation

The American Group Psychotherapy Association (AGPA) 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. AGPA represents over 2,000 mental health professional members including psychologists, psychiatrists, and social workers, as well as mental health, family, and pastoral counselors, many of whom have been recognized as specialists through the Certified Group Psychotherapist credential. 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 association also has 21 local and regional societies located across the country.

AGPA is committed to supporting the dignity and psychological safety of every individual without discrimination regarding race, ethnicity, gender, religion, sex, age, or disability. Central to our mission is a belief in the power of groups to treat mental illness, heal the scars from traumatic events, and enhance the well-being of adults and children in their families, schools, corporate settings, and communities.

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.

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