Living in the Community of Giving

Connie Concannon, LCSW, CGP, DFAGPA, Editor, Group Assets

In my tenure as Editor of Group Assets, I have written many articles referencing the changes in our Tri-Organizational structure. The most significant change over the last 20 years has been in the leadership that the Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health has taken in creating a culture of contribution, which has insured our ability to support our collective goals and to sustain the AGPA Annual Meeting as a group training opportunity. It has become the heart and soul of our collective organizations.

The Group Foundation has created a secure base of support through multiple efforts. The seeds of the culture were planted, nurtured, and grown in ways we couldn’t have imagined over 20 years ago. Now, we are living in a professional community that has fully integrated these values and is realizing the benefits of the contributions. We have seen this work in many wonderful ways.

We used to be known nationally as having one of the best training conferences in the field. We have grown to be known also as one of the most generous and inclusive organizations in supporting new professionals, students, and leaders working in the public sector. It’s clear that the hard work of the Group Foundation has changed the brand of AGPA.

Our fund raising success has grown from educating our leadership and membership about the importance of their contributions and the many ways their giving supports our shared values and goals. We have also diversified the ways in which individuals can contribute and participate in fund raising efforts. As we approach the year’s end, which is the biggest time of giving in the life of nonprofit organizations, I would like to take the time to remind you of the different ways that you can give, and hope you will invite others to be a part of our outreach efforts and make contributions to this fund. The Scholarship Program

The simplest way to donate is to make a direct contribution; even better, commit to making an annual pledge. Another personal option is considering a bequest to the Group Foundation (for which you also have choices, including a named amount bequest, a percentage bequest, and a charitable gift annuity). A number of our Board members, AGPA Fellows and members and other friends of the Group Foundation have already done this (you can see their names in the Legacy Society list in this and every newsletter!). This leaves a lasting legacy and acknowledgment of the impact that AGPA has made in their personal and professional life. It’s another way to leave your footprint in an organization that means so much to all of us.

If you would like a more personal approach in making a contribution, there are other avenues. Consider which activities in the organization have meaning to you, and tie your contribution directly to that area. It may be in the area of research (the Group Foundation has a Research Fund) or a specific practice that you are committed to (several endowed scholarships support students working with specific populations). It may come in the form of an endowment or supporting a special event or program in the organization.

Many of you have identified the Scholarship Program as a valuable and important part of our outreach efforts and make contributions to this fund. The Scholarship Program

Continued on back
2015 Contributions to the Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health

Gifs acknowledged here from January 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015.

Sustainers

(5000 - 9999)
Ramon Alonso
Barbara Goldfinch Amster
Mindy Block
Fireman, Inc.

Explorers

(3500 - 4999)
Patricia M. Barth
Aaron & Les Black
Gregory Black
Flynn, Inc.

Sponsors

(2500 - 3499)
Barbara & Al Diama’s
Stephen M. Danis
Pulmonary Connections
Christine & Mark

Jeffrey Hudson & Robert
Suzanne Phillips

Optimists

(2000 - 2499)
Constance Gonnella
John Roche
Edward Miller

Kathleen & Bill Conklin
Suzanne Brennan-Nathan

Warmest Welcome

(1500 - 1999)
Eugene & Barbara Kalder
Leonard Horwitz

Community of Giving

continued from front

has had a transformative impact on our organization. It has given us the opportunity to open the doors and invite the next generation of mental health professionals into our fold. Not only are they showing up, they are participating and joining. Their presence has added both vitality and hope for the future of group psychotherapy.

Others in our membership have chosen to make a contribution in memory of a specific person, or in celebration of an achievement of friend or colleague. I have been on the receiving end of this type of contribution and I can tell you that it is a meaningful gift that promotes a feeling of pride and gratitude.

Another way of raising funds through celebration and recognition is working with the Group Foundation to put on an event in your community who has contributed to your local group or Affiliate Society. These events have been very successful at two levels. Not only have they been successful fund raising tools, but they have provided a wonderful way to bring people together to connect, celebrate, and build a warm and inclusive group culture. There are members who make a powerful and positive change in the culture of our organization.

Group资产

Connie Concanon, LCSW, CGP, DFAGPA, Editor
Mark Block, CAE, CFM, Editor
Diane Feilman, CAE, Editorial/Production Manager
Nicole Millman-Falk, Editorial/Production Manager
Angela Stephens, CAE, Editorial/Production Manager

Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health
25 East 21st St, New York, NY 10010
Phone: 212-477-2677; Toll-free: 877-668-AGPA (2472)
Fax: 212-979-6627; e-mail: info@agpa.org

In Memoriam Contributions

(donor is listed in parentheses)

Karen Craver (Susan Rostomian)
Harel Berman (Nina Thomas)
Rico Pera (Darryl Purcy)
Forrest Gilmour (Stan & Allan Barna)

In Honor of Contributions

(donor is listed in parentheses)

AGPA Staff (Nicole Milman-Falk)
Phyllis Cohen (M. & Mrs. Stephen Friedman, Roberta Jellinek, Judith Lauterstein)
Eleanor Conulous (Stacy Bell, Marsha Block, Suzanne Cohen, Jeffrey Hudson)
Macario Giraldo (Maryetta Andrews-Sachs, Christine Fitztovino, Myrna Frank, Jeffrey Hudson, Ginger Parc, Kathy Riter)

Sponsorship (donor is listed in parentheses)

Constance Gonnella, John Roche, Edward Miller

Kathleen & Bill Conklin
Suzanne Brennan-Nathan

Warmest Welcome (donor is listed in parentheses)

Eugene & Barbara Kalder, Leonard Horwitz

Community of Giving

continued from front

has had a transformative impact on our organization. It has given us the opportunity to open the doors and invite the next generation of mental health professionals into our fold. Not only are they showing up, they are participating and joining. Their presence has added both vitality and hope for the future of group psychotherapy.

Others in our membership have chosen to make a contribution in memory of a specific person, or in celebration of an achievement of friend or colleague. I have been on the receiving end of this type of contribution and I can tell you that it is a meaningful gift that promotes a feeling of pride and gratitude.

Another way of raising funds through celebration and recognition is working with the Group Foundation to put on an event in your community who has contributed to your local group or Affiliate Society. These events have been very successful at two levels. Not only have they been successful fund raising tools, but they have provided a wonderful way to bring people together to connect, celebrate, and build a warm and inclusive group culture. There are members of the Foundation Board who will work with you in planning your gathering.

Another way you can help is to make sure you tell our story to friends and family and offer them options to give. If you are having a celebration (milestone anniversary, birthday, etc.), please consider asking people to donate to the Group Foundation in your honor. We recognize through a cause dear to your heart.

No matter what option you choose for your contribution, the Group Foundation Board is available to help in the process. We would also like to hear from you if you know of or are interested in other ways to foster the spirit of giving.

As AGPA approaches its 75th anniversary, a contribution would have special meaning in insuring that group therapy remains strong for the next generation of mental health professionals.

While it’s a bit early, I wish all of you a Happy Holiday season. I want you to know how thankful we all are for any of your contributions large or small. It has made a powerful and positive change in the culture of our organization.