



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

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### GROUP FOUNDATION FOR ADVANCING MENTAL HEALTH CELEBRATES SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARD WINNERS AND CONTRIBUTORS FEBRUARY 21, 2021

**NEW YORK, February 21, 2021**— During virtual AGPA Connect 2021 the Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health, the philanthropic arm of the AGPA, honors scholarship and award winners, as well as the generous contributors who make the program possible. A myriad of awards, supporting the training of group therapists and the use of group in communities to effect change, are distributed through the Foundation.

Award recipients being honored include:

- **Jonathan Ryan, CEO and President, Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services (RAICES)** is receiving the **Humanitarian Award** for his dedication to the inalienable right of all people to migrate in order to better their way of life, and the visionary leadership he has provided at RAICES to carry out its mission to defend the rights of immigrants and refugees, empower individuals, families, and communities and advocate for liberty and justice.
- **Craig Haen, Ph.D., RDT, CGP, LCAT, FAGPA and Suzanne Phillips, Psy.D., ABPP, CGP, FAGPA, Co-Chairs, AGPA Community Outreach Task Force** are receiving the **Social Responsibility Award** in recognition of the extensive work they have done as Co-Chairs of the AGPA Community Outreach Task Force over the last year in response to the pandemic and other events, as well as their work overall in responding to communities affected by trauma.
- **Leonardo M. Leiderman, PsyD, ABPP, CGP, FAGPA** is receiving the **Alonso Award for Excellence in Psychodynamic Group Theory** for his work on the *Psychodynamic Group Therapy with Hispanic Migrants: Interpersonal, Relational Constructs in Treating Complex Trauma, Dissociation, and Enactments* article.
- **Over 90 individuals have received scholarships to attend the meeting, supported through endowed scholarship funds and private donations.**

Please view our brochure celebrating these scholarship and award recipients as well as the donors whose generosity makes our programs possible.

[EMBED FLIPBOOK FOR DONOR BROCHURE IN CONSTANT CONTACT VERSION]

“The Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health is privileged to honor those whose use of groups in clinical and community settings helps people in need,” said Darryl Pure, Ph.D., ABPP, CGP, FAGPA, Chairman of the Board. “This is also our opportunity to publicly thank our donors, whose generous contributions make it possible for us to carry out our mission.”

For more information, contact the Group Foundation at (877) 668-AGPA (2472) or [dfeirman@agpa.org](mailto:dfeirman@agpa.org) or visit [www.agpa.org](http://www.agpa.org).

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### *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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