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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY ASSOCIATION TO AWARD
DISTINGUISHED FELLOWSHIPS TO
GARY BURLINGAME, PHD, CGP, FAGPA AND LES GREENE, PHD, CGP, LFAGPA

New York, February 19, 2019— The American Group Psychotherapy Association (AGPA) announced that **Gary Burlingame, PhD, CGP, FAGPA** and **Les Greene, PhD, CGP, LFAGPA** will be awarded Distinguished Fellowship in the Association at its upcoming AGPA Connect 2019 in Los Angeles, February 25 – March 2 at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel. The award presentation will take place during the Anne and Ramon Alonso Plenary Address on Friday, March 1, 2019 at 8:30 AM. Distinguished Fellowship is the highest honor bestowed by the Association, recognizing outstanding leadership and contributions to the field of group psychotherapy.

Gary Burlingame, PhD, CGP, FAGPA (Salt Lake City, UT) is a highly respected psychologist, researcher and leader in the AGPA community. Dr. Burlingame has been President of Division 49 of the American Psychological Association (Group Psychology and Group Psychotherapy) as well as the Fellow Committee Chair and Research Committee Chair. He received the APA Presidential Citation (2014) for outstanding contributions to the field and was awarded Group Psychologist of the Year for APA in 2006 as well as BYU University Professorship for excellence in scholarship, teaching and citizenship from 2011-2021. His contributions through AGPA have included serving as a member of the Science to Services Task Force, where he helped develop the *Clinical Practice Guidelines for Group Psychotherapy* and as part of the Community Outreach Task Force that delivered services following 9/11. He also served on the AGPA Board of Directors and as Co-Chair for the Distance Learning Task Force as well as the CORE Battery Task Force; as part of the latter he spearheaded the effort to update this key research tool. Dr. Burlingame also served on the Editorial Board for the *International Journal of Group Psychotherapy*. In addition to his leadership roles in AGPA, Dr. Burlingame served on the Editorial Board for *Group Dynamics: Theory, Research and Practice*, *Psychotherapy Research* and the *Journal of Clinical Psychology: In Session*. He is a prolific author and presenter with 131 articles, 47 chapters, 12 technical manuals, 4 books, almost 300 papers and over 200 group therapy presentations at various conferences. He is currently a Professor in the Department of Psychology at Brigham Young University and has held this position since 1996.

Les Greene, PhD, CGP, LFAGPA (Hamden, CT) is a highly respected psychologist, professor, researcher and leader; including serving as President of AGPA and a member of the Board of Directors for AGPA, the Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health and the International Board for Certification of Group Psychotherapists. Dr. Greene was an Assistant Professor and Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of California at Davis School of Medicine and an Associate Professor at Yale University School of Medicine. He has taught courses and seminars across the nation. In addition to multiple group and social systems consulting, staff psychologist and supervisory positions, Dr. Greene has been a staff psychologist at West

Haven Veterans Affairs Medical Center, serving clients while supervising and training psychology interns and Yale psychiatric residents in group psychotherapy. Dr. Greene was also Chair of the Nominating Committee and a member of both the Annual Meeting Committee and Fellowship Committee. On the Group Foundation Board, he oversees the research grant funding process. He was Editor of the *International Journal of Group Psychotherapy* for ten years during a period of significant growth and transformation in the *Journal* and its reach. Dr. Greene also played a critical role in the inauguration of the AGPA Science to Service Task Force helping to produce the *AGPA Clinical Practice Guidelines for Group Psychotherapy*. He currently serves as Co-Chair of the Task Force. Les has published nearly 100 academic papers, books and monographs. In 2014 he received the Arthur Teicher Group Psychologist of the Year Award from APA Division 49, Society of Group Psychology and Group Psychotherapy, which honors a distinguished group psychologist whose theory, research, or practice has made important contributions to knowledge of group behavior.

“Distinguished Fellowship recognizes those who are seminal leaders, teachers, clinicians, researchers and authors in the global community of group psychotherapy,” said Eleanor F. Counselman, EdD, CGP, LFAGPA, AGPA President. “Dr. Burlingame and Dr. Greene, with their local, national and internationally renowned leadership in AGPA and the group psychotherapy field, epitomize this recognition.”

This award presentation is a highlight of **AGPA Connect 2019**. The theme "Building Bridges of Connection Through Groups" 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. This meeting attracts more than 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. 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 AGPA Connect 2019. To register, please send an e-mail request to dfeirman@agpa.org or call 877-668-AGPA (2472).

About AGPA

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.