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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AGPA INCOMING PRESIDENT DR. MOLYN LESZCZ TO DELIVER HIS PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS “ALL I REALLY NEED TO KNOW IN LIFE, I LEARNED IN GROUP” MARCH 6, 2020

NEW YORK, February 25, 2020— The American Group Psychotherapy Association’s (AGPA) incoming President Molyn Leszcz, MD, FRCPC, CGP, DFAGPA, will deliver his Presidential Address at AGPA Connect in New York City, March 2 - March 7, 2020. The address, taking place during the Anne and Ramon Alonso Presidential Plenary Session on Friday, March 6, is entitled “All I Really Need to Know in Life, I Learned in Group.” Dr. Leszcz will explore the powerful role of group therapy in the delivery of meaningful and effective mental health care. The presentation will also focus on the essential contributions our understanding of group therapy, group process and group principles make in every aspect of our lives.

Dr. Molyn Leszcz is a Professor in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Toronto where he served as Vice Chair, Clinical, and as Psychiatrist-in-Chief at Sinai Health System. In addition to more than 100 peer-reviewed papers and chapters, he co-authored with Irvin Yalom, the *Theory and Practice of Group Psychotherapy*, 5th ed. (2005). The 6th edition will be published in 2020. Dr. Leszcz was awarded the Alonso Award for Outstanding Contributions to Psychodynamic Group Therapy and is a Distinguished Fellow of AGPA. Dr. Leszcz has also been the recipient of a number of teaching and education awards at the University of Toronto.

“Beyond the powerful role of group therapy in the delivery of high quality mental health care, our understanding of groups and group therapy is an important aspect of what we can bring to the healing of the fractures in our society. I believe our expertise and understanding has never been more needed in the world,” says Leszcz.

Dr. Leszcz’ Presidential Address is a highlight of AGPA Connect 2020 in New York City. Entitled “Group: Growth and Renewal,” 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. The theme reflects the meeting’s emphasis on the power of groups to effect change in meaningful ways 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 the Presidential Address as well as other select sessions of AGPA Connect 2020. To register, please send an e-mail request to dfeirman@agpa.org or call 212.477.2677.

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.

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