



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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INTERNATIONAL BOARD FOR CERTIFICATION OF GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPISTS PRESENTS 2022 HAROLD S. BERNARD GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY TRAINING AWARD TO THE HOWARD UNIVERSITY COUNSELING SERVICE

NEW YORK, February 15, 2022— The International Board for Certification of Group Psychotherapists will be presenting the 2022 Harold S. Bernard Group Psychotherapy Training Award to the Howard University Counseling Service (HUCS). The presentation will take place during Virtual AGPA Connect 2022 on Thursday evening, March 3, during the Membership Community Meeting, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m. (eastern).

This award was established in 2001 and is given annually to an individual or organization whose work in group training and/or education contributes to excellence in the practice of group psychotherapy. It was renamed through a legacy gift provided to the Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health by Dr. Bernard for the purpose of endowing the award. Throughout his lifetime, training in group psychotherapy was near and dear to Dr. Bernard's heart. His legacy bequest and this award insure that individuals and programs meeting a high standard of training quality be identified and honored for their contributions to the field in developing the next generation of clinicians who use group psychotherapy to help people.

Howard University Counseling Service is being recognized with this award due to its exemplary and expansive training both in group counseling and diversity training. The training is comprised of didactic seminars, observational group/discussion, co-leading a counseling group, and group supervision. In the didactic seminars, trainees are introduced to theories and group interventions. While observing, students see group theory, conceptualizations, and interventions as they unfold. Co-leading gives participants an opportunity to facilitate short-term counseling groups and practice skills learned. Finally, group supervision is led by an experienced group training supervisor. In addition to training interns, the staff is encouraged to continue training at the American Group Psychotherapy Association (AGPA), the National Group Psychotherapy Institute (NGPI), and the A. K. Rice Institute for the Study of Social Systems, among other programs. HUCS has also been a leader in the group therapy field, specializing in treatment for the BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) community, and furthering multiculturalism and diversity training.

The past few years' recipients of the award are as follows; the full list can be found [here](#).

2021 Farooq Mohyuddin MD, CGP, FAGPA

2020 J. Scott Rutan PhD, CGP-R, DFAGPA

2019 Judith Coché, PhD, ABPP, CGP, LFAGPA

2018 Helene Satz Psy.D., ABPP, CGP

2017 Norman Neiberg, Ph.D., DLFAGPA

2016 National Group Psychotherapy Institute (NGPI) of the Washington School of Psychiatry

2015 Haim Weinberg, Ph.D., CGP, FAGPA

This award presentation is a highlight of Virtual AGPA Connect 2022. Entitled “Uniting Through Groups: Pathways to Understanding and Inclusion,” 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 deepening group therapists’ capacities to promote understanding and inclusion in group work. 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 Virtual AGPA Connect 2022. To register, please send an e-mail request to dfeirman@agpa.org or call 877-668-AGPA (2472).

About the International Board for Certification of Group Psychotherapists

The International Board for Certification of Group Psychotherapists is a standard setting and certifying body. This multidisciplinary credentialing body has over 1,500 certified clinicians, including psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, nurses, clinical mental health counselors, marriage and family therapists, pastoral counselors and creative arts therapists who are recognized as group specialists through the Certified Group Psychotherapist credential.

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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