

Group Assets



The Newsletter of the
Group Foundation
for Advancing Mental Health

Summer 2016

The Ripple Effect

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

When we come together March 6-11 in New York City to celebrate AGPA's 75th Anniversary, we will be part of a group that has strong representation of the multi-generations that make up our membership. This is a milestone anniversary in many ways. After 75 years, we are thriving, growing, and continuing to promote our belief that group psychotherapy is an integral part of mental health treatment. This is an accomplishment that we can be proud of and is more evidence that group works at many different levels. It works at the organizational level; it works as a key component in teaching and training; and it works in private and public mental health settings providing the highest standard of care.

The fact that AGPA is flourishing as an organization after 75 years can, in part, be credited to the significant role that the Group Foundation for Advancing Mental Health has played in developing our Scholarship Program and your generosity in building this dynamic outreach effort. When we meet next year, you will see the fruits of all of our efforts when you see the sea of young faces and voices that are filling our meeting. It is both inspiring and comforting to know that we have built a bridge to the next generation to create professional competency and a place to be a part of a strong and nurturing community. The recipients of our Scholarship Program have reflected on what this opportunity has meant to them on an educational level, how this has impacted them in their professional settings, and what it means to them to be part of a professional community. If you haven't yet done so, I encourage you watch the video of Scholarship Program recipients on our website. Among those recipients were Katie Van Speybroeck and her colleague Ned Peck. Katie was one of the new professionals who I brought in through the program; I was deeply moved by what she shared about what the opportunity has meant to her. Ned also encapsulates the impact that the Scholarship Program has had on his professional and personal life. He described it by say-

ing: "It was profound. It was like dropping something in the pond that will ripple out."

I would like to share more of the ripple effect, which other recipients have written when expressing their gratitude to donors.

"The Institute experience was thrilling, instructive, and deeply meaningful. I got to understand process groups from the inside and learn a great deal about leadership and the many strong emotions that participating in an intense process group provokes. The talks and workshops that I attended were informative and rewarding intellectually. As a psychotherapist in a community mental health clinic in the New York area, I have been applying concepts and practices in my work. I am becoming a more creative, theoretically informed, empathic, and process-oriented group leader. I am serving the low-income population that I work with in a way that is more attuned to their day-to-day interpersonal experiences—their feeling of strength and mastery, their shame and loss, and everything in between." This letter truly exemplifies the way that the conference experience flows back into the community and effects such positive change.

Other recipients spoke of this experience: "It's difficult for me to concisely describe how the AGPA Annual Meeting has changed my professional and personal take on the world around me, but I feel assured that attending this conference was truly transformative in nature. Again, I would like to sincerely thank the Scholarship Committee for giving me this opportunity, and I look forward to attending this conference every year throughout my career as a psychologist."

These statements answer a question that I have been asked frequently, "Do you think that these recipients will come back and become members after they don't need the scholarships?" The answer is yes. Many of these recipients have stayed members of AGPA and have been mentored

continued on back

Fulfilling the Promise Founders Circle

Our sincerest appreciation is expressed to these
endowment donors in support of our program.

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Apply for a Scholarship Today

Attending the Annual Meeting allows recipients to learn and grow personally and professionally, making connections that will last a lifetime. Through the generosity of its donors, the Group Foundation will again offer multiple funding opportunities to attend AGPA's 2017 Annual Meeting, celebrating its 75th Anniversary, March 6-11 in New York City.

To apply for one of these scholarships, visit AGPA's website at www.agpa.org/Foundation/scholarships for detailed information and required application forms. **Application deadline is November 1, 2016.** Additional questions? E-mail: charper@agpa.org.

If you are interested in contributing to the Group Foundation to help qualified candidates attend the 2017 Annual Meeting in New York, contact the Foundation office at 212-477-2677 or visit the website and click on Donate Now.

Applications Being Accepted For Two New Scholarships This Year!

In addition to the many endowed and donated scholarships currently available, this year, the Foundation is accepting applications for two new endowed scholarships.

Barbara and Albert Dazzo Scholarship:

This scholarship supports attendance for the AGPA Annual Training Week for a student, resident or new professional delivering group services in a not-for-profit mental healthcare delivery system such as a community healthcare organization, hospital, clinic or agency with a preference for those working with underserved populations. The scholarship was endowed by Barbara Dazzo, PhD, LCSW, CGP-R, FAGPA, a long-time AGPA member and current member of the Group Foundation Board of Directors, her husband Albert, and their son Stephen, all of whom are committed to supporting

those doing this difficult work by helping them obtain training and support. The Group Foundation is grateful to the Dazzo Family for its generosity in establishing this scholarship fund.

Southwestern Group Psychotherapy

Scholarship: This scholarship supports attendance for the AGPA Annual Training Week for a student, resident, or new professional residing in Texas, New Mexico, Arkansas, Oklahoma, or Arizona. The scholarship was endowed by The Southwestern Group Psychotherapy Society, which after 59 years of supporting group psychotherapy in these areas determined it had fulfilled its original purpose and decided to disband. While doing so, it elected to memorialize its work through an endowment gift of its remaining assets. The Group Foundation is grateful to the Southwestern GPS and its leadership for their generosity in establishing this scholarship fund.

Legacy Society

We appreciate the provisions these planned
gift donors have made for the Group Foundation.

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