

The Resilience Portfolio Consortium (RPC) is a joint endeavor of the Life Paths Research Center (Sewanee, TN) and the Center for Research on Ending Violence (Rutgers School of Social Work, New Brunswick, NJ).

About the Resilience Portfolio Consortium

Mission Statement

The Resilience Portfolio Consortium (RPC) is an international community of scholars and policymakers. We work together to advance the science of resilience and psychosocial strengths, with the ultimate aim of informing prevention, intervention, and reducing the global burden of trauma and its consequences. The RPC advocates a portfolio approach to resilience and prevention. The portfolio approach emphasizes the importance of harnessing assets and resources across all levels of the social and physical ecology, focusing on the domains of meaning making, regulatory, and interpersonal strengths. Our work emphasizes the use of multiple methods, promotes scholarly collaboration and mentoring, and engages practitioners and communities. A primary focus of the RPC is developing a global and coordinated approach to identifying key psychosocial strengths (especially understudied or underappreciated strengths) in a broad range of cultural and geographic settings. We are particularly interested in facilitating work in communities that have historically received less scientific investment. The RPC is designed to provide opportunities for scholars seeking mentoring, training, and professional community for their work on preventing and overcoming trauma.

The creation of the RPC was inspired by the promise of strengths-based approaches—and also by the challenges in shifting to strengths, as seen by the persistence of deficits-based and even victim-blaming approaches to trauma. We recognize the obstacles in keeping up with new work and pushing against longstanding scientific conventions and created the RPC to help scholars move the field forward faster. A key goal of the RPC is to discourage research on resilience that overly focuses on individual characteristics or studies only one strength at a time, because such approaches have limited utility for overcoming trauma and can even become victim-blaming. We also aim to promote global collaborations on this work.

<https://www.lifepathsresearch.org/lifepaths-community/>

Activities and Resources

The RPC will provide a range of protocols and other supports to promote portfolio-based work on resilience.

- **Scoping Reviews Project.** Our first efforts will focus on building scholarly teams who will prepare and publish scoping reviews that focus on a specific region, population, or category of strength. Protocols, examples, and training will be provided to authors.
- Mentoring opportunities. Led by Co-Directors Dr. Sherry Hamby and Dr. Victoria Banyard, there will be numerous opportunities for professional development, including a system for formally recognizing professional progression in scholarship (see below).
- Networking opportunities. Beginning with our first in-person meeting in Nashville, TN, USA on April 19, 2023, there will be many opportunities to meet and form relationships with other scholars with interests in resilience and trauma.
- Protocols for other scholarly endeavors:

- Qualitative interviews and guides to explore understudied and/or culturally specific strengths.
- Survey research, to develop tools to assess all elements of the resilience portfolio--(trauma, psychosocial strengths, and current functioning) and to provide valid and reliable measures for communities worldwide.
- Program evaluations and guidance on how to better integrate basic research with prevention and intervention.
- Opportunities to work with others on existing or shared datasets to investigate new strengths-based analyses and hypotheses.

Benefits of Membership

- Members will have access to mentoring across career stages.
- Members will be part of a community of scholars producing strengths-focused science.
- Membership provides professional affiliation and service to help build your own scholarship portfolio and CV.
- Members will have opportunities to collaborate on publications and grants.
- Members will be invited to be part of quarterly RPC online community building, idea exchange, and accountability meet-ups, both in-person and on zoom.
- Members will be offered an affiliation with the Life Paths Research Center.
- Members will be part of a community that will provide opportunities for mentoring and for connecting with scientific teams to partner on scholarly projects.
- Members will be able to access all protocols developed by the RPC.

Levels of Involvement

- **Members:** All Interested researchers, advocates, and providers can join as Members. There is no fee to join.
- **Senior Members:** Members who have been the lead author or faculty supervisor on at least one peer-reviewed journal article or similar professional project (such as developing a curriculum) are eligible to become Senior Members. Senior Members are expected to remain active in the RPC (including participating in quarterly meetings and collaborating on RPC projects).
- **Fellows:** Senior Members with substantial contributions to research, policy, or practice using a portfolio approach to resilience or prevention may apply for Fellow status. Fellows are expected to mentor early-career members of the RPC and help recruit others to the RPC.
- **Associate Directors:** There are limited positions available for those who want to get more involved in the administration of the RPC and shaping of the direction of the RPC.

Leadership

- The RPC is led by Drs. [Sherry Hamby](#) and [Victoria Banyard](#), Co-Directors.

There is no extra fee to attend the Resilience Portfolio Consortium meetings.

To indicate interest please sign up here: <https://www.lifepathsresearch.org/lifepaths-community/>