

Edith Henderson Grotberg

Dr. Edith Henderson Grotberg, Ph.D., is on the faculty of George Washington University as well as Georgetown University, both in Washington, D.C. Her work has been as Director of Research and Evaluation for the Department of Health and Human Services, where studies of youth were conducted. After leaving that position, where problems were the focus of attention, she became interested in resilience, where solutions to problems received major attention. As a result, she formed the International Resilience Research Project, which gathered information around the world to determine how people became resilient. In this hemisphere, the countries included: Chile, Brazil, Costa Rica, Mexico, Panama, the United States, and Canada. Members of PAHO's staff participated in this effort.

Dr. Grotberg is Past President of the International Council of Psychologists and has received awards from the American Psychological Association, the Institute for Mental Health Initiatives, and the Knowledge Utilization Society. She has written two books on resilience, and edited the latest one, Resilience for Today: Gaining Strength from Adversity, that includes chapters from officers of PAHO.

A primary interest of Dr. Grotberg, is the attention given to youth. Her concerns are that youth seem to be receiving attention that does not add to their development, rather it is punitive. She is devoting time and attention to this issue and making presentations internationally concerning the role of resilience in dealing with youth issues.