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Expert collaboration brings homelessness to book

Veterans Aid CEO Dr Hugh Milroy (far left) is to co-author a groundbreaking book on the causes and consequences of homelessness. The research aspect of this work is funded by the Dean's Research Fellowship Award from the College of Liberal Arts, Blacksburg, USA.



The publication, a collaboration with Virginia Tech's Professor Karen Roberto, explores the relevance of childhood and family connections among homeless veterans. The integration of research information with information on intervention strategies was a key focus. This summer Milroy and Mancini planned the book while in residence at the Riva San Vitale, Switzerland.

Dr Milroy said "Understanding the causes of homelessness and how it should be addressed should illuminate areas concerning pathways to vulnerability in a way that has not previously been considered."

Professor Mancini added "Dimensions of vulnerability and of resilience in the context of homelessness. We seek to disentangle the multitude of factors that can win out over vulnerability when there are important interventions."

The two men, who have been working together on military and veteran issues, appeared in print together before, in *Pathways of Human Development*.

Mancini and Virginia Tech University colleague Professor Karen Roberto.

'Pathways' uses theoretical perspectives from developmental, social, and behavioural sciences to examine the way in which communities intersect and interface. Focusing on the impact of change on human development, including its antecedents and consequences, the chapters examine a range of topics such as health and adaptation; social anxiety disorder; protective factors; parent-child relationships; adolescent sexuality; intergenerational relationships; family stress and adaptation.

Dr Milroy said "It was an honour to be included among such a high-powered group of international academics. The support and watchful eye of the director of The Institute for Society, Culture and Environment <http://www.isce.vt.edu/>, Professor Karen Roberto who both went out of their way to include my work. My chapter examined sustained change among homeless veterans moving from welfare to well-being for those in crisis. The theoretical model and case study material provide a road map for intervention research and professional practice.

"The next book, which is already underway, will take our understanding of the issues involved a step further.

This is vital as the subject of homelessness among veterans is fraught with myth and misrepresentation."

"I am grateful for their support and was delighted to find out that any royalties from the book will be donated to Veterans Aid."

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Veterans Aid

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