



The Society for Research in Child Development

is pleased to announce the 2017 Recipient of the

Victoria S. Levin Grant

For Early Career Success in Young Children's Mental Health Research

Rebecca J. Brooker, Ph.D.

Psychological and Brain Sciences, Texas A&M University



In 30 years of distinguished service at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Vicki Levin had a special interest in scientific research that addressed young children's mental health. The Victoria S. Levin Grant for Early Career Success in Young Children's Mental Health Research, established to honor and carry forward this special focus of Vicki's life's work, was made possible by the donations of hundreds of her friends, colleagues and family members. Its aim is to heighten the chances of early success in achieving federal funding for developmentally-informed research that addresses the early foundations of children's mental health and well-being. Broadly defined, such research addresses all aspects of the early development of competence and risk for children from all types of backgrounds.

We are very pleased to announce that Dr. Rebecca J. Brooker is the recipient of the 2017 Victoria S. Levin Award. Dr. Brooker is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at Texas A&M University. Her selected mentors are Dr. Martha Ann Bell at Virginia Tech and Dr. Koraly Pérez-Edgar at Penn State. Dr. Brooker received her BA in Psychology from Central College and her PhD (in Developmental Psychology) from Penn State. Dr. Brooker spent time as a pre-doctoral fellow with the Early Childhood Mental Health Training program at Penn State (mentors: Dr. Kristin Buss & Dr. Jenae Neiderhiser) and a post-doctoral fellow in the Training Program in Emotion Research at the University of Wisconsin - Madison (Mentors: Dr. Hill Goldsmith & Dr. Richard Davidson). She also previously received a Mentored Research Scientist Development Award (K01) from the National Institute of Mental Health. Dr. Brooker's research is aimed at identifying how the interplay between biology and context shapes developmental trajectories of mental health. Her work under this award will focus, in particular, on understanding biological function as a mechanism of bidirectional influence on trajectories of anxiety problems in parents and children.

Please visit www.srcd.org for more details about the grant and applicant eligibility. Applications for the 2018 grant will be available on the SRCD website on July 1, 2018. The deadline for applications is September 1, 2018; the grant will be announced in November 2018.