Seven characteristics of resilient nonprofits

What does it take for nonprofit organizations to respond and adapt to shocks and disruptions of all kinds? Research points to seven crucial characteristics:

1. Purpose driven
   *A galvanizing commitment to mission, meaning, and values*

2. Clear eyed
   *Challenges faced head on while maintaining faith in ultimate success*

3. Future oriented
   *Forward-looking planning practices for navigating an uncertain future*

4. Open
   *Intentional communication with internal and external stakeholders*

5. Empowered
   *Inclusive organizational culture that embraces shared leadership*

6. Committed to self-renewal
   *Space created for rest and rejuvenation*

7. Connected
   *Supported by personal relationships, institutional links, and community networks*

Access the full report, including stories of nonprofit resilience in action, and principles and practices for funders.

[doi.org/10.15868/socialsector.36542](doi.org/10.15868/socialsector.36542)

Research study by Diana Scearce with June Wang

April 2020