

Search & Rescue, Stress, and the Path to Resilience

with Josie McKee





When does stress become stress injury?



Stress

INDIVIDUAL STRESS CONTINUUM

GREEN

Healthy Sleep

Healthy Personal Relationships

Spiritual & Emotional Health

Physical Health

Emotionally Available

Gratitude

Vitality

Room For Complexity

Sense of Mission

YELLOW

REACTING

Sleep Loss

Distance From Others

Change In Attitude

Fatigue

Avoidance

Short Fuse

Criticism

Lack of Motivation

Cutting Corners

Loss of Creativity

Loss of Interest

ORANGE

INJURED

Sleep Issues/ Nightmares

Disengaged Relationships

Feeling Trapped

Exhausted

Physical Symptoms

Emotional Numbness

Suffering

Isolation

Burnout

RED CRITICAL

Insomnia

Broken Relationships

Intrusive Thoughts

Anxiety & Panic

Depression

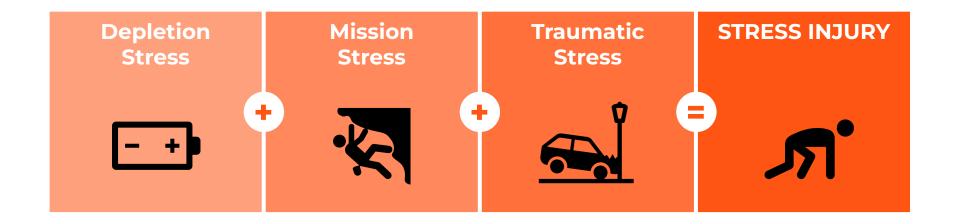
Feeling Lost or Out of Control

Thoughts Of Suicide

Blame

Hopelessness

STRESS INJURY EQUATION



BATTERY SNAPSHOT

What charges the battery?

Space

Connection

Sleep

Movement

Play

Gratitude

Innovation

Mission Satisfaction



What drains the battery?

Overwhelm
Too much demand
Broken systems
Isolation
Meaningless work
Sleep deprivation
Mission exhaustion



Potentially Traumatizing Events (PTEs)

PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION	OVERWHELM	HELPLESSNESS & ISOLATION
Family Contact Personal Connection Duty to Act	First Time Exposure Extreme of Exposure Complexity of Incident	Overwhelmed/Depleted Mission Injury Incidents Involving Children

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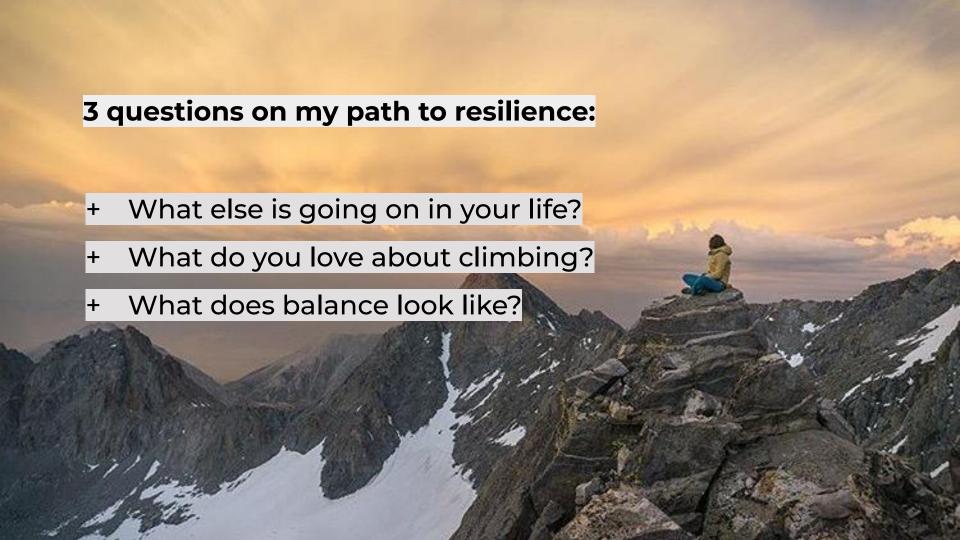
What are the risks?

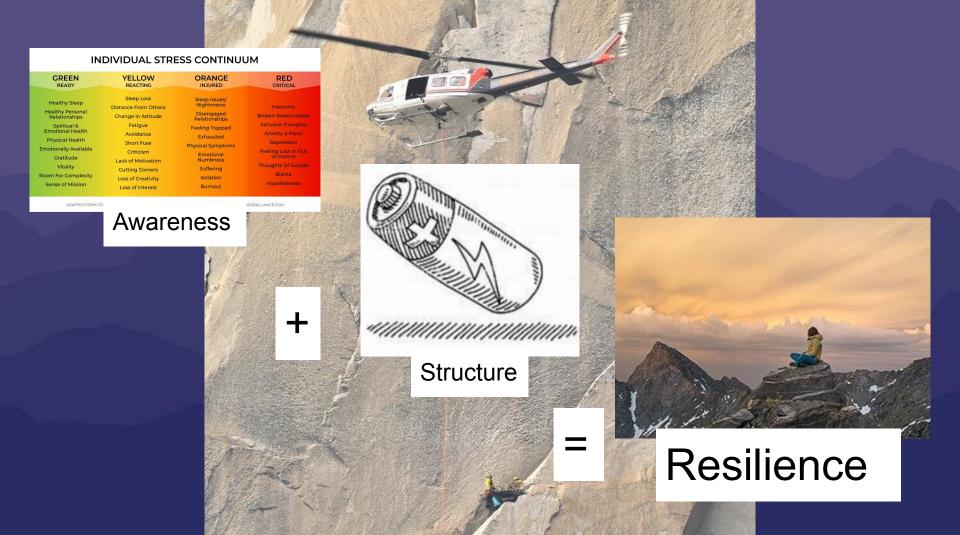
- + Physical health & wellbeing
- + ↓Capacity
- + Burnout
- + And more



RESPONDER 🗘 ALLIANCE







Action Steps for Resilience:

- 1. Standardize stress injury risk awareness.
- 2. Utilize stress continuum check-ins to maintain internal situational awareness.
- 3. Establish structure to support staff after exposure to PTEs.