

Elizabeth Likis-Werle is a Licensed Professional Counselor in North Carolina and currently works in the Counseling Center at Western Carolina University. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa as a Psychology major from Wofford in 1994. She earned her Masters Degree in Community Counseling with a Chancellor's Fellowship from Western Carolina University in 1998.

While at Wofford, Elizabeth was recognized with the American Legion Award and the Senior Panhellenic Award and was inducted into the Senior Order of Gnomes and Blue Key Honor Society. She was active in many student organizations including Campus Union for four years serving as Treasurer and delegate, a member of the Executive Committee, student member of the Board of Trustees Finance Committee, and peer counselor. She participated in Wofford Theatre Workshop for four years, earning membership into the Alpha Psi Omega honorary theatre fraternity, and she sang in the Goldtones women's acapella vocal group. Elizabeth served as Vice President/Pledge Programmer of her sorority and was awarded the Anna B. McCord award for Outstanding Zeta Tau Alpha in South Carolina. She was selected as one of two representatives from South Carolina to attend the *Women as Leaders* seminar in Washington, DC.

After graduation from Wofford, Elizabeth worked as a counselor in a variety of settings with children, adolescents, and adults. She got a taste of residential treatment at the Eckerd Wilderness camps for high-risk youth and then moved to Asheville, North Carolina. There she worked with the community mental health center in school-based programs, Adult Crisis and Counseling Services, and as a home-based therapist at Child and Family Services working with families who were at risk of losing their children due to abuse and neglect. Before coming to Western Carolina University, she counseled dually diagnosed substance users and psychiatric clients at Mission Hospitals in the Partial Hospitalization Program, facilitating skills-based groups modeled after Dialectical Behavior Therapy.

Presently, Elizabeth is working on a national research project being investigated by Wake Forest School of Medicine that is addressing high risk drinking on college campuses. It is called the *Study to Prevent-Alcohol-Related Consequences*, and she is the Campus and Community Organizer for Western Carolina University charged with building a coalition of university and community citizens that will create substance abuse prevention strategies. The study focuses on using the environmental approach through community organizing.

She and her partner are licensed foster parents and are active volunteers. She is on the Board of Directors for Big Brothers/ Big Sisters of Western North Carolina and has been matched with a child for five years as a Big Sister. She also serves on the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council and the Community Health Link Board of Directors for Jackson County. She sits on the Advisory Committee of the graduate programs in School and Community Counseling at WCU and is a past board member and Public Education Chairperson of the North Carolina Family-based Services Association.