

**Paula Leslie MA, LCPC**  
Therapeutic & Educational Placement Consultant



**EDUCATION**

**University of Montana**, Missoula, MT. MA Mental Health Counseling, May 2004.

**Western Washington University**, Bellingham, WA Bachelor of Arts Recreation (Outdoor), 1994.  
**Outstanding Graduating Senior Award**

**RELATED EXPERIENCE**

**EXPERIENCE WORKING IN WILDERNESS THERAPY PROGRAMS**

**Therapist**, Aspen Achievement Academy, Loa, UT, 1/2005-2/2006.

- Provided individual and group counseling to adolescents in a short-term (35-55 days) residential treatment program.
- Coordinated services with insurance representatives, home therapists, family members, and educational consultants.
- Supervised and mentored program staff working directly with clients as part of the treatment team.
- Provided weekly updates to parents as well as resources to address emerging parenting and family issues.

**Therapist**, Ascent Idaho, Naples, ID, 10/2005-12/2005

- Temporary therapist for one group of young men ages 14-17.
- Facilitated therapeutic process groups.

**Therapist, Summer Big Sky Program**. Explorations, Inc., Trout Creek, MT 6/2004-8/2004.

- Provided individual and group counseling to adolescents in a two month outdoor therapy program.
- Facilitated family phone calls between students and parents and updated educational consultants.
- Planned, coordinated, and delivered primary family therapy during a week long "mother daughter" raft trip.

**Program Coordinator**, Explorations, Trout Creek, MT. 1998-2000.

- Coordinated logistical aspects of ELP and Summer Programs (hiring, training staff, trip itineraries).
- Updated parents and educational consultants on student progress.
- Worked with Program Director to make recommendations for after care of all students.

**Assistant Field Director**, Aspen Achievement Academy, Loa, UT. 1996-1997.

- Interviewed, hired and trained all new field staff.
- Provided ongoing field support (staff development, field visits).

**Field Instructor**, Aspen Achievement Academy, Loa, UT. 1996.

- Taught high school curriculum including geology, social science, English.
- Lead daily process groups on subjects assigned by group therapist.
- Responsible for safety and well being of eight students in a two-month wilderness setting.

**EXPERIENCE WORKING IN LONG-TERM PROGRAMS**

**Counseling Intern**, Chrysalis, Eureka, MT. 1/2003-7/2003.

*Family style residential therapeutic boarding school for adolescent girls.*

- Lead two DBT groups following Marsha Linehan's Treatment Manual and publications.
- Individual Counselor for 3-5 students.
- Co-facilitated evening process circles.

**Outdoor Recreation Program Assistant**, Mission Mountain School, Condon, MT. 10/2000-7/2002.

*Two-year residential therapeutic boarding school for adolescent girls*

- One of three staff responsible for all weekend programming and supervision.
- Monitored student phone calls, meals, and student activities.
- Attended daily process groups and distributed medications.
- Taught enrichment classes (biking, skiing, volleyball, dance, art, gardening).

**House Manager**, Aurora Transition Home, Missoula, MT. 8/2003-5/2004.

*Transition home for young adults leaving residential treatment and beginning college.*

- Maintained staff and student records.
- Supervised house staff.
- Taught life skills including meal planning, budgeting, and self-advocacy.

## **OTHER WORK RELATED AND COUNSELING EXPERIENCE**

**Counseling Intern**, Counseling and Psychological Services, University of Montana, 8/2003-5/2004.

- Provided scheduled and crisis counseling for students, faculty, and staff of UM.
- Maintained thorough case notes using medical model.
- Assessed and documented clinical diagnoses using DSM IV Axis system.

**Employment Coordinator**, Columbia Gorge Center, The Dalles, OR. 10/1997-5/1998.

- Job Developer for people with disabilities.
- Taught Job Club class on contract with the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation.
- Provided community access services to people with developmental disabilities.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

Leslie, Paula (2010, October). Cleveland, Ohio. *Why Wilderness Therapy?* Authored by Dr. Andrew Erkis PhD and Paula Leslie MA, LCPC. Grand Rounds featured presenter at Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio.

## **PERSONAL**

*Interests*-swing dancing, remodeling a 1900s farm house with my husband, gardening, river rafting and outdoor activities.

## **CERTIFICATIONS, MEMBERSHIPS, and TRAININGS**

American Counseling Association	Member since 2002
Association for Experiential Education, Therapeutic Adventure Professional Group	Member since 1994
Wilderness First Responder	
Dialectical Behavioral Therapy (2 Day Training, Missoula, MT)	3/2003
Motivational Interviewing (2 Day Training, Loa, UT)	10/2005

## **REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST**