

Jessica Dale started her career in the nonprofit sector as an advocate for victims and survivors of intimate partner violence. After realizing her passion was working with youth, she spent a decade educating middle grade and college age students about healthy relationships, consent and active bystander intervention skills in the hope of creating a community free of violence.

In 2019, Jessica made a career shift to the Upward Bound program at Appalachian State as an Academic Coordinator. Throughout her time with the program, she has been committed to providing support and guidance to rural students as they navigate their High School careers and prepare for their futures as first generation college students. She continues to be dedicated to fostering academic excellence and facilitating the pursuit of post-secondary education among at-risk high school students, and she is passionate about empowering young minds to reach their fullest potential through academics and social and emotional support. Her extensive background in sexual violence prevention has allowed her to create inclusive and trauma-informed spaces where students feel supported and respected.

