



## ELIZABETH M. (LIBBY) PUCKETT, PT

Consultant  
Chair, Organizational Capacity Implementation  
Group

Elizabeth M. (Libby) Puckett is a Physical Therapist who graduated from the University of Cape Town and specialized in Cardiopulmonary Physical Therapy. Her many years of clinical experience covered three continents and included cardiac, pulmonary and neurological rehabilitation. She served for 11 years on various Boards of the Children's National Medical Center in Washington DC, including chairing the Strategic Planning Committee. These experiences led to a passion for preventing what is preventable, and for attempting to make a difference more than one patient at a time. Puckett serves as chair of the National Forum's Organizational Capacity Implementation Group and has served on the National Forum Coordinating Board since March of 2008.

In the last 16 years, Puckett has worked in health promotion and disease prevention. She has lived in Durham, NC since 1994 and served as Executive Director of North Carolina's legislatively funded and appointed Justus-Warren Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention Task Force from 1995–2005. In 1998 she coordinated the writing of NC's successful proposal to the CDC for funding of one of the first two comprehensive state Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention (HDSP) programs in the country. Her years as Program Director of NC's HDSP Program also saw development and funding of the Tri-State Stroke Network (NC, SC and GA), and the NC Collaborative Stroke Registry. This work resulted in her being awarded NC's highest civilian award for service to the state – the Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

During 2002 Puckett served as chair of one of five Expert Panels working with CDC to develop the *Public Health Action Plan to Prevent Heart Disease and Stroke*. In 2004–2005, she co-led the Taking Action Task Group of the National Forum working to implement the *Public Health Action Plan*. Since her retirement from the NC Division of Public Health in 2005, she has continued to work with the Justus-Warren Task Force and NC HDSP in a consultant capacity.