Elizabeth Means

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Professional Summary

Engineering leader with 10 years of experience transitioning to product design with 2 years of proven experience in user research, stakeholder discovery, and design creation. Currently conduct discovery sessions, translate insights into requirements, and create Figma mockups for development team of 6 engineers. Presented product demonstrations at 5 national conferences, gathering user feedback to inform design decisions. Combine creative foundation in art and design principles with deep technical understanding and human-centered leadership approach. Completing UX Research & Design certification from University of Michigan.

Certifications

User Experience Research and Design | estimated December 2025
University of Michigan (Coursera)

People Manager Qualification | 2021
Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM)

Skills

UX Design & Research: User Research, Stakeholder Interviews, Requirements Analysis, Wireframing, Prototyping, Design Systems, Information Architecture, User Persona Development, Journey Mapping, Accessibility Testing, Figma

Technical: TypeScript, JavaScript, Angular, HTML, CSS/Sass, REST API's, Git, Agile/Scrum, Jira, Confluence

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Professional Experience

WIC Product Manager | Kunz, Leigh & Associates | 2023 - Present

- Lead product development for new WIC management information system, combining SME discovery, Figma design work, and engineering leadership to deliver solutions balancing user needs with technical feasibility
- Conduct 40+ discovery sessions with SMEs, stakeholders, and potential end users across 3 states to identify requirements and translate business needs into actionable design specifications
- Create 100+ high-fidelity Figma mockups to communicate design intent and facilitate collaboration between SMEs, stakeholders, and development team

- Gather user feedback from WIC program staff at 5 National WIC Association conferences through product demonstrations, informing iterative design and feature prioritization
- Lead and mentor cross-functional team of 6 engineers through full product development lifecycle, fostering technical growth and human-centered team culture
- Establish user-centered design process that reduces back-and-forth between stakeholders and developers through clearer requirements and visual mockups

Staff Software Engineer | Kunz, Leigh & Associates | 2022 - 2023

- Served as full-stack engineer on WIC management information system with strong focus on design systems and user experience advocacy, collaborating closely with business analysts on UX decisions while delivering features at high velocity
- Advocated for and established in-code component library using Storybook with integrated ADA compliance tooling, creating shared design reference between development and business teams
- Coded within a .NET/C#, Angular, TypeScript, JavaScript, HTML, and CSS/Sass ecosystem, translating ambiguous requirements into functional solutions
- Mentored junior developers and coordinated technical decisions with team of 8 engineers

Lead Software Engineer | Kunz, Leigh & Associates | 2020 - 2022

- Created Adobe XD mockups to illustrate design intent, guiding visual and technical decisions from concept through implementation
- Managed and mentored team of 4 developers, resulting in 3 promotions (2 Associate to Senior, 1 Senior to Staff) through targeted career development
- Pioneered company's first monorepo architecture, applying abstraction and polymorphism for scalable code design

Full Stack Engineer | Kunz, Leigh & Associates | 2015 - 2020

- Introduced Angular framework to company on Children's Healthcare Automated Support Services (CHASS) project after attending NG-Conf, establishing foundation for company's primary frontend framework now used across 10+ projects
- Co-founded company-wide shared component library, enabling code reuse across multiple teams and projects

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Education

Bachelor of Science (BS), Computer Science
Michigan Technological University | 2012 - 2015

Additional Leadership

Design Group Co-Founder & Contributor | Kunz, Leigh & Associates | 2019 - Present

- Co-founded internal design initiative with colleagues, developing group charter and establishing company-wide resource for design guidance with 45+ active members, publishing and co-authoring 10+ design education articles