0:00:16.640,0:00:19.600

Bonnie: Alright,

Welcome back to Navigating Adulthood and

0:00:19.600,0:00:23.199

IDD! I'm so excited today we have  ${\bf Hannah}$ 

Gallagher

0:00:23.199,0:00:26.560

a board-certified music therapist from  $% \left( 1\right) =\left( 1\right) \left( 1\right)$ 

California.

0:00:26.560,0:00:33.360

Welcome!

Hannah: Thank you so glad to be here.

Bonnie: Yay and I'm excited because um as the

0:00:33.360,0:00:36.719

listeners may or may not know I'm a

music therapist too

0:00:36.719,0:00:40.399

uh but other than that like I haven't

had a music therapist on yet so I'm

0:00:40.399,0:00:43.360

really excited

yeah, you're like officially the first

0:00:43.360,0:00:48.719

music therapist that I' ve interviewed

so, I've like talked about music therapy

0:00:48.719,0:00:52.000

a little bit but not too much so I'm

really excited like

0:00:52.000,0:00:57.280

that now I can shine this episode

Hannah: great

I love it I'm excited

0:00:57.280,0:01:01.039

Bonnie: awesome so okay um can we start with you

telling us a little bit about yourself

0:01:01.039,0:01:06.479

and maybe your work

Hannah: yeah um yeah, my name is Hannah I

0:01:06.479,0:01:12.880

live in Daly City which is in Bay area

I'm like five minutes from San Francisco

0:01:12.880,0:01:18.080 and um I am a music therapist and person-centered planning coordinator

0:01:18.080,0:01:20.720 for a non-profit organization that provides

0:01:20.720,0:01:24.320 services for children all the way through adults

0:01:24.320,0:01:26.320 developmental and intellectual

0:01:26.320,0:01:31.920 disabilities and I primarily work in the adult services so

0:01:31.920,0:01:35.680 I've been there for about two and a half years

0:01:35.680,0:01:40.000 um it's my it was my first music therapy job and I'm still

0:01:40.000,0:01:43.759 with it and I love it and this organization has been great because they

0:01:43.759,0:01:48.159 have allowed me to kind of start this little music therapy program and

0:01:48.159,0:01:52.560 and slowly start to grow it so yeah, it's been great Bonnie: oh, it's so

0:01:52.560,0:01:56.640 exciting that's awesome I feel like sometimes like new professionals

0:01:56.640,0:02:00.240 might not like stay at their first job very long for whatever reason is not a

0:02:00.240,0:02:03.840 good fit or trying to even find yourself as a music

0:02:03.840,0:02:07.200

therapist and like what you want to do so it's exciting like it was a good fit

0:02:07.200,0:02:11.120 and you've been able to grow this program

 ${\bf Hannah:}\ {\bf mm-hmm}\ {\bf yeah}\ {\bf and}\ {\bf I}$ 

0:02:11.120,0:02:13.760 mean

it yeah it's it's such a journey and

0:02:13.760,0:02:18.080 there's a lot more we can do but it just started

0:02:18.080,0:02:22.560 with me and it's still me but I this semester I have a music therapy

0:02:22.560,0:02:25.360 student kind of under my wing a practicum student

0:02:25.360,0:02:29.440 and get to watch what I'm doing so that's like one step closer and growing

0:02:29.440,0:02:33.760 this program and and um and kind of like spreading the

0:02:33.760,0:02:37.599
the awesome word of music therapy with adults with developmental and

0:02:37.599,0:02:40.800 intellectual disabilities

Bonnie: yeah I would have loved that as a

0:02:40.800,0:02:44.239 practicum I did have an adults with IDD practicum and

0:02:44.239,0:02:47.680 they like came to the school of music which was cool but that would have been

0:02:47.680,0:02:52.319
like really cool to be like kind of out and like in the action and like kind of

0:02:52.319,0:02:55.200 know what it's more like to work at

different facilities

0:02:55.200,0:03:01.760

are you at different facilities?

**Hannah:** yeah

so um pre-COVID we were in

0:03:01.760,0:03:07.440

I was in two different buildings um and

I would rotate my time because in

0:03:07.440,0:03:09.920

addition to being music therapist I also

do

0:03:09.920,0:03:13.920

person-centered planning which involves

a lot of goal writing and working with

0:03:13.920,0:03:17.040

social workers and the treatment teams

and everything like that but

0:03:17.040,0:03:21.360

yeah I go back and forth to to different

buildings and split my time there

0:03:21.360,0:03:26.080

Bonnie: cool yeah and you we we could dive into

it now if you want you just touched on

0:03:26.080,0:03:29.200

it pre-COVID so like what's going on

now

0:03:29.200,0:03:33.840

how's 2020? (pained laughter)

0:03:35.360,0:03:39.200

Bonnie: are the fires bad around where you are?

Hannah: say that again?

0:03:39.200,0:03:42.319

Bonnie: are the fires bad or is that a different

part of California?

0:03:42.319,0:03:48.080

Hannah: The fires are bad um

yesterday actually we woke up to bright

0:03:48.080,0:03:53.920

orange skies

um yes it was quite the experience

0:03:53.920,0:03:57.360 we were all very confused the air quality wasn't actually that

0:03:57.360,0:04:00.640 bad we were told but it looked horrible

Bonnie: it looked

0:04:00.640,0:04:06.080

Hannah: The logic was hmm

I'm gonna stay inside um and today it's

0:04:06.080,0:04:11.680 very smoky unfortunately so we're okay um people I know are safe

0:04:11.680,0:04:15.040

but it's still it's unfortunate thing

Bonnie: yeah

0:04:15.040,0:04:18.320 we've had a lot of fires around here too and like

0:04:18.320,0:04:22.960 I think it was Sunday I was on my porch and there was like ash falling from the

0:04:22.960,0:04:25.520 sky and I'm like I don't live that close to

0:04:25.520,0:04:30.880 the fires either so it's just like just coming our way so yeah not to get

0:04:30.880,0:04:35.040 too distracted but when I said 2020 I started thinking about the crazy weather

0:04:35.040,0:04:40.479 that we've had this week **Hannah:** I know and

and I think yeah Colorado got snow

0:04:40.479,0:04:45.520 that's what I heard?

Bonnie: we did! it snowed Tuesday and Wednesday

0:04:45.520,0:04:50.479 so it was like 98 degrees on Sunday and then it was like 93 0:04:50.479,0:04:56.080 where I was Monday and then it was 35

degrees on Tuesday

0:04:56.080,0:04:59.280

and it's like 50 today like it's slowly kind of going back up to like a fall

0:04:59.280,0:05:03.039

temperature

but like I was not prepared for this I'm

0:05:03.039,0:05:07.520 from Georgia originally so you know snow in the normal snow

0:05:07.520,0:05:11.280 season I get all like whoa snow but snow in September I'm like okay

0:05:11.280,0:05:16.320 2020 is like really really giving it to us this year right

0:05:16.320,0:05:22.479

Hannah: wow yes exactly we uh um
in one of my music therapy sessions we

0:05:22.479,0:05:25.280 rewrote

the song I want it that way by the

0:05:25.280,0:05:29.759 backstreet boys too the pandemic can go away um

0:05:29.759,0:05:34.160

**Bonnie:** so amazing Hannah: when you ask me how my 2020 was

0:05:34.160,0:05:40.639

that that song popped into my head

Bonnie: what a perfect songwriting so validating

0:05:40.639,0:05:44.160

to everyone's

feelings and like like what a like

0:05:44.160,0:05:49.280

that's a bop

so you're validating to a bop

0:05:49.280,0:05:52.800

and like and you can kind of keep going

back to it even as a clinician

0:05:52.800,0:05:58.560 please go away COVID

Hannah: exactly I mean like

I we're not here to kind of sugarcoat

0:05:58.560,0:06:03.919 things I work with adults and they they recognize that this is

0:06:03.919,0:06:08.319 this is annoying this is frustrating um I'm like yeah we're gonna sing about it

0:06:08.319,0:06:10.880 we're gonna you know sing about what we wish we were

0:06:10.880,0:06:14.400 doing right now and then you know after we've we've

0:06:14.400,0:06:17.039 gotten all that out then we can start talking about

0:06:17.039,0:06:21.600 well what fun things can we do at home um how can we make our situation better

0:06:21.600,0:06:24.800 just for today you know but like you gotta get it out

0:06:24.800,0:06:28.160 and what why why not do it to the backstreet boys

0:06:28.160,0:06:31.039 **Bonnie:** right exactly

I love that I feel like I'm gonna say

0:06:31.039,0:06:34.880

that like

I don't know when I'll need that but I'm

0:06:34.880,0:06:39.039

ready

oh it's so good yeah and I love that

0:06:39.039,0:06:41.360

like

how you said like yeah we're not sugar

0:06:41.360,0:06:44.880 coating it

and it's almost like the blues like the

0:06:44.880,0:06:48.479 blues is kind of a genre of music where you don't sugarcoat

0:06:48.479,0:06:50.880 it and so to acknowledge like yeah you're working

0:06:50.880,0:06:53.440 with adults we can we can point out this year it

0:06:53.440,0:06:59.520 sucks like this year **Hannah:** yeah exactly exactly we yeah I mean the blues we we

0:06:59.520,0:07:02.000 did another blues songwriting it was just like

0:07:02.000,0:07:05.520 I think we just call it the stuck at home blue that was like

Bonnie: oh yeah

0:07:05.520,0:07:08.800

Hannah: fresh COVID I guess you know
three weeks in

0:07:08.800,0:07:12.560 everyone's getting a little antsy at home so

0:07:12.560,0:07:19.919 **Bonnie:** oh no three weeks in

Hannah: um yeah but I I mean yeah we're

0:07:19.919,0:07:25.120 providing virtual services now um in the time of COVID

0:07:25.120,0:07:31.360 and it's been a journey um we we shut down our programs in March

0:07:31.360,0:07:36.000 mid-March and um got I think our virtual classes 0:07:36.000,0:07:40.560 running like a month and a half later um and

0:07:40.560,0:07:44.319 we're growing it so it's it's required you know all of us

0:07:44.319,0:07:47.919 as staff calling um the individuals we work with

0:07:47.919,0:07:51.520 calling the families making sure that they're set up with technology

0:07:51.520,0:07:55.199
um and then I mean there are people that
don't have internet services

0:07:55.199,0:07:59.680 so then we're kind of stuck how how can we best

0:07:59.680,0:08:05.840 provide services for you in this time um and we get creative and I do phone call

0:08:05.840,0:08:09.280 music therapy

Bonnie: yes and we've talked about this like off

0:08:09.280,0:08:13.039 the podcast so I'm so excited to go into this this is in my notes

0:08:13.039,0:08:16.800 because I don't I I've heard of music therapists doing this I haven't done

0:08:16.800,0:08:20.080

phone call myself but I feel like it's definitely not as common

0:08:20.080,0:08:23.919 as like the online platform but you're right a lot of you know what do you do

0:08:23.919,0:08:26.720 when people don't have internet how do we make this more accessible so I would

0:08:26.720,0:08:30.080

love like what does a phone call session look like?

0:08:30.080,0:08:33.599 any tips for people if that's something they need to venture into with their

0:08:33.599,0:08:37.760 Clients?

Hannah: yeah uh it's it's a big

0:08:37.760,0:08:44.640 grand old experiment it really is um and I mean yeah so so we have people

0:08:44.640,0:08:48.560 who really benefit from music therapy in person

0:08:48.560,0:08:51.680 we have we we provide services for people

0:08:51.680,0:08:54.800 where sitting in front of a computer does not make sense

0:08:54.800,0:08:58.800 to them it's too abstract and it's just not working

0:08:58.800,0:09:02.399 um where maybe a phone is a little bit more

0:09:02.399,0:09:10.399
like tangible for them to hear my voice
um so so yeah I I reach out to the

0:09:10.399,0:09:13.600
people
mainly who we we can't connect anywhere

0:09:13.600,0:09:15.680 else other than calling them on the phone

0:09:15.680,0:09:20.320 um and they are short so you know we can't go in expecting to do a

0:09:20.320,0:09:24.240 30 45-minute session on the phone it's not gonna work 0:09:24.240,0:09:29.200 um but I mean I have one one individual we started maybe

0:09:29.200,0:09:33.839 at three minutes and now we're up to 15. um

0:09:33.839,0:09:38.000 you just you kind of you just build into it and people they get used to it

0:09:38.000,0:09:45.040 um so I think of it more in terms of less um less I guess

0:09:45.040,0:09:48.880 session like it's very it's not very structured the phone call sessions

0:09:48.880,0:09:53.360 are not um it's me uh talking to them so they can hear my

0:09:53.360,0:09:57.519 voice because this may be the only contact they get for a little bit

0:09:57.519,0:10:01.040 um we're having conversations if they want

0:10:01.040,0:10:05.600 to tell me about their day um if they um

0:10:05.600,0:10:09.360 communicate in different ways I I just give them more choices they can maybe

0:10:09.360,0:10:13.600 give me a yes or no I let them choose what songs it's always

0:10:13.600,0:10:16.720 their choice always always and then a lot of times to

0:10:16.720,0:10:20.560 get them I'm thinking forward um and expecting my next phone

0:10:20.560,0:10:23.920

call it's like what song are we gonna what song am I gonna learn

0:10:23.920,0:10:26.800 for you next week um and that's actually expanded my

0:10:26.800,0:10:30.480 repertoire a lot during coding because they'll just and a lot of them

0:10:30.480,0:10:33.600 can think of just whatever song and I'm like okay great we're doing that

0:10:33.600,0:10:37.760

next one and you know generally

I'm the one you know picking the songs

0:10:37.760,0:10:40.560 and structuring the session but I want them doing it

0:10:40.560,0:10:46.959 um because in this time especially we're losing that sense of control um

0:10:46.959,0:10:49.040 and and I want them to have that structure

0:10:49.040,0:10:53.600 of Hannah's gonna call between 2 30 and 3 on Tuesday um get

0:10:53.600,0:10:56.640 ready and you know she's going to sing the

0:10:56.640,0:10:58.959 song that we picked last week and then I'm going to

0:10:58.959,0:11:04.720 be able to choose some songs and and we're gonna make music together so

0:11:04.720,0:11:07.920 it's it's an experiment and you have to really know

0:11:07.920,0:11:12.640
the individuals you work with um knowing if they can do phone calls or not

0:11:12.640,0:11:15.040 because some people phone calls aren't they're not gonna

0:11:15.040,0:11:18.959 work

Bonnie: um right like if they need more visuals

0:11:18.959,0:11:22.399 then either online or maybe do you have cases where people just

0:11:22.399,0:11:26.800 aren't able to do the virtual? **Hannah:** yeah we

have some people that aren't

0:11:26.800,0:11:30.000 able to kind of do those services but what we

0:11:30.000,0:11:33.839 do um sometimes it's not just music therapists it's a whole bunch of

0:11:33.839,0:11:37.279 instructors we um have been making activity bags for

0:11:37.279,0:11:40.480
people and that's kind of our biggest
artist we're doing at this point where

0:11:40.480,0:11:45.040 it's like structured activities every day of the week um for certain

0:11:45.040,0:11:48.720 times which also helps because some some individuals live with

0:11:48.720,0:11:53.519 their families and families are busy or in group homes where you may not get as

0:11:53.519,0:11:56.160 much support doing those activities it's structured

0:11:56.160,0:12:00.880 for you so we get creative um which is kind of where the phone call 0:12:00.880,0:12:05.360
music therapy stemmed from and
and my goal is to be able to do maybe

0:12:05.360,0:12:10.000 socially distanced uh front yard music therapy soon Bonnie: right I

0:12:10.000,0:12:12.399
know I
I was I'm wondering if I'm going to do

I was I in wondering II I in going to do

0:12:12.399,0:12:17.200 that too it's complicated with my situation but also

0:12:17.200,0:12:19.600
it's like
now I'm worried about the weather it's

0:12:19.600,0:12:23.360 snowing in Denver I'm like am I going to miss this window

0:12:23.360,0:12:27.360 of like nice outdoor time and then have to stay online I

0:12:27.360,0:12:32.000 don't know we'll just have to see because right now I'm all online too so

0:12:32.000,0:12:34.480 **Hannah**: yeah it's

it's a forever changing thing and I

0:12:34.480,0:12:37.600 think the world of music therapy has changed

0:12:37.600,0:12:42.959 forever

Bonnie: yeah forever

I even think about like people in school

0:12:42.959,0:12:46.320 like online's now going to be part of this curriculum

0:12:46.320,0:12:50.560
yeah like and like you know that wasn't
an option when I was in school like

0:12:50.560,0:12:53.680 it just never came up no one would have ever thought like oh we should make sure

0:12:53.680,0:12:57.519
this is in the curriculum
and like how is that not gonna be in the

0:12:57.519,0:13:01.440 curriculum moving forward

Hannah: exactly and I think like we're learning

0:13:01.440,0:13:05.200 a couple of things um working with adults is one we haven't

0:13:05.200,0:13:08.959 prepared um our adults enough to access

0:13:08.959,0:13:12.560 technology um many many of them are super

0:13:12.560,0:13:15.519 independent they they're teaching me about tech

0:13:15.519,0:13:18.800 things I have them I have them you know share the screen when I do

0:13:18.800,0:13:21.120 google classroom and I'm like you do it

0:13:21.120,0:13:24.240 but we have people that they just never had that opportunity

0:13:24.240,0:13:27.440 so they don't know how to do it and now we're trying to teach them

0:13:27.440,0:13:32.959 virtually which is so hard so we're seeing that the lack of education

0:13:32.959,0:13:39.760
um you know from the start and then
um but on the kind of flip side we are

0:13:39.760,0:13:42.399

seeing some individuals really love these

0:13:42.399,0:13:47.360 virtual services and open up way more than they would have in like a

0:13:47.360,0:13:51.199 group setting up program um where they're actually greeting

0:13:51.199,0:13:55.279
people they're making choices
they're like they're singing along which

0:13:55.279,0:13:57.920 you know in a big group of people they would probably be in the back

0:13:57.920,0:14:02.639 not talking not engaging um and it's that's been really cool to see too it's

0:14:02.639,0:14:04.560 like hey now we're now we're reaching some more

0:14:04.560,0:14:09.279
people virtually
Bonnie: right and
before that wasn't something to I know

0:14:09.279,0:14:12.399 some music therapists were doing online stuff before COVID

0:14:12.399,0:14:15.600 but it definitely wasn't something like a go-to option of like oh maybe this

0:14:15.600,0:14:19.120 would work better for this client or this adult and it's like you're

0:14:19.120,0:14:22.639 it's so true that some people really light up behind

0:14:22.639,0:14:26.560 the screen and then the comfortability of their own home

0:14:26.560,0:14:30.639 um yeah for sure it's it's very interesting the whole dynamics of it all

0:14:30.639,0:14:33.839

and

just this year yeah

Hannah: I know it's it's

0:14:33.839,0:14:37.279

interesting because it's I mean

in some ways it's you know being able to

0:14:37.279,0:14:40.480

do things at home and all virtually is more accessible for some people and the

0:14:40.480,0:14:44.800

way they learn

and the way they interact um which has

0:14:44.800,0:14:47.680

been

cool to explore and see that

Bonnie: yeah

0:14:47.680,0:14:51.519

definitely just to circle back a little bit I had a question with the phone call

0:14:51.519,0:14:54.399

session

is there a delay with that with singing

0:14:54.399,0:14:58.079

with people or does that eliminate it more or is it kind of the same?

0:14:58.079,0:15:01.199

Hannah: There unfortunately I think there is a

delay

0:15:01.199,0:15:05.839

um for some of the people I do music
therapy with

0:15:05.839,0:15:12.959

who are really strong singers um I

stop and have them sing and I accompany

0:15:12.959,0:15:17.120

them

I don't know if it sounds like a

0:15:17.120,0:15:23.120

delay on their end um but I keep

I I keep trying to just gauge interest

0:15:23.120,0:15:27.680 level and engagement and it's still there so I think it's

0:15:27.680,0:15:30.240 working I'm constantly asking can you hear me

0:15:30.240,0:15:33.360 okay can you hear both my voice and my guitar

0:15:33.360,0:15:40.480 um yes there is a lag and I think trained musicians it would

0:15:40.480,0:15:46.160 it would get a little annoying um it's working for the people I am providing

0:15:46.160,0:15:49.680 that service I am with

Bonnie: yeah that makes sense

0:15:49.680,0:15:53.279 so funny with video calls because yeah I think especially if you're one-on-one

0:15:53.279,0:15:56.720 there's that delay but it's like I know as the music therapist if I just

0:15:56.720,0:15:59.920 keep going it's gonna sound fine to them but like

0:15:59.920,0:16:04.240 but yeah as musicians it's like ah because it's so delayed

0:16:04.240,0:16:08.480 but I mean I guess if it sounds fine to them like you just keep going

0:16:08.480,0:16:13.120 **Hannah:** yeah um and I keep asking them because I want to make sure that they're

0:16:13.120,0:16:16.639 the the things they're hearing is like sounds pleasant um

0:16:16.639,0:16:23.120 but yeah it it works um but I would say it only works in with certain people in

0:16:23.120,0:16:27.440 very specific settings um but it's for me it's a chance to

0:16:27.440,0:16:30.800 connect it's a chance to make sure that they are

0:16:30.800,0:16:34.639 heard um and that we can we can make some

0:16:34.639,0:16:40.320 music together you can make some choices you have something to look forward to so

0:16:40.320,0:16:45.279 **Bonnie:** yeah that's awesome so it's neat that you guys got that creative

0:16:45.279,0:16:49.440 idea from the people where it wasn't a good fit for video

0:16:49.440,0:16:52.720 and with the abstract device because I do think sometimes clients think I'm

0:16:52.720,0:16:56.560
like a video
and then they're like wait that video is

0:16:56.560,0:17:01.440 talking to me like what um so yeah like I think you're right the

0:17:01.440,0:17:05.600 phone call can be a little more accessible for different individuals so

0:17:05.600,0:17:08.880 really cool creative idea I haven't heard that too too much with um

0:17:08.880,0:17:12.400 COVID so I'm gonna keep that in my back pocket too

0:17:12.400,0:17:15.600

just to keep options open for people
Hannah: yeah

0:17:15.600,0:17:19.199
yeah definitely I'm I'm all about
accessibility and

0:17:19.199,0:17:23.199
we work with a wide variety of people
with a wide variety of

0:17:23.199,0:17:26.799
needs so how are we going to get to
everybody because right

0:17:26.799,0:17:32.240 job

Bonnie: right yeah and so you're mostly doing sing-alongs on the phone

0:17:32.240,0:17:37.840 um maybe songwriting?

**Hannah:** we

have done a little bit of songwriting

0:17:37.840,0:17:40.799
I'm I
am starting to venture into that with

0:17:40.799,0:17:46.160 some um it doesn't work

0:17:46.160,0:17:49.280 well yeah I'm venturing I'm venturing into it

0:17:49.280,0:17:52.720 um I it has taken kind of a while for people to get

0:17:52.720,0:17:59.440 used to me calling um every single week at a certain time um and I like

0:17:59.440,0:18:02.559 to kind of structure um or I like to have them kind of

0:18:02.559,0:18:05.760 structure which is a lot of them choosing different songs but

0:18:05.760,0:18:10.480

I'm starting to do um I'm gonna start to do more of the songwriting I think

0:18:10.480,0:18:13.600 with some of them to kind of get more of the emotional expression

0:18:13.600,0:18:19.520 going so yeah **Bonnie**: cool are most people that are on the phone are they tech

0:18:19.520,0:18:22.240 savvy or are they on the phone because they're not as

0:18:22.240,0:18:27.120 tech savvy?

Hannah: they are on the phone because
they probably don't even have internet

0:18:27.120,0:18:33.600 at home um and so that's the only way we can contact them since

0:18:33.600,0:18:37.360 we can't do anything in person so um yeah I'm calling

0:18:37.360,0:18:42.320 landlines and I know

0:18:42.320,0:18:45.840 it's great

**Bonnie:** well I'm just asking because I was thinking like

0:18:45.840,0:18:49.200 you've gotten my like creative wheels spinning I'm like how would I do a phone

0:18:49.200,0:18:51.919
call session
and I was like could you text the person

0:18:51.919,0:18:56.559 like have they have you on speaker and maybe you could like send visuals but

0:18:56.559,0:18:59.919 if they don't have a smartphone then that they probably

0:18:59.919,0:19:02.960

aren't having you know they might not have the smartphone if they can't

0:19:02.960,0:19:06.480 have the internet in the zoom it probably correlates or

0:19:06.480,0:19:10.480 they have landlines

Hannah: yeah yeah that's and
that's where it just gets

0:19:10.480,0:19:13.520 you got to get really creative and it can get really tricky

0:19:13.520,0:19:17.280 and you know I yeah you just have to get creative

0:19:17.280,0:19:20.480 um within like the means of where you work um

0:19:20.480,0:19:24.160 to provide to provide services because yeah there are people that just don't

0:19:24.160,0:19:27.840 have that access or um have the support to to

0:19:27.840,0:19:33.120 help them utilize that so that's why phone calls

0:19:33.120,0:19:36.799 almost everyone I work with I know is comfortable taking a phone call

0:19:36.799,0:19:39.840 and whether they respond or not I don't know

0:19:39.840,0:19:45.200 they heard me they answered the phone they made a choice it doesn't matter if

0:19:45.200,0:19:49.039 they're singing along or not yeah it's more of like kind of at this

0:19:49.039,0:19:53.679 point we're trying to improve quality of life right yeah

Bonnie: right and I

0:19:53.679,0:19:56.720

think that's a great segue into our next kind of topic

0:19:56.720,0:20:00.320

I want to kind of ask you about that second position you have as the

0:20:00.320,0:20:05.200

person-centered planning coordinator
so you're both music therapists and this

0:20:05.200,0:20:10.400

other title correct?

Hannah: yes yes
(Bonnie: cool)
Hannah: so um

0:20:10.400,0:20:13.679

yeah when I first joined this

organization

0:20:13.679,0:20:17.600

um I originally started as an instructor but they saw that I was a music

0:20:17.600,0:20:22.880

therapist wanted to

utilize my services um but I you know

0:20:22.880,0:20:26.640

the the budget's not there for me to be full-time music therapists there we're

0:20:26.640,0:20:30.880

we're growing it which is great um so I
had I had another position kind of

0:20:30.880,0:20:34.320

tacked on

um and it's kind of evolved over the

0:20:34.320,0:20:37.280

years but

uh recently it's person-centered

0:20:37.280,0:20:41.360

planning coordinator so

um there is a huge push and there has

0:20:41.360,0:20:47.600

been past several years in especially the adult sector

0:20:47.600,0:20:51.520 of person-centered planning and seeing this

0:20:51.520,0:20:59.520 implemented in adult day programs employment programs things like that

0:20:59.520,0:21:06.320 because for a very long time um we have done a fairly good job I

0:21:06.320,0:21:10.320 shouldn't say a very long time most recently we've done a good job of

0:21:10.320,0:21:14.000 keeping adults with disabilities healthy and

0:21:14.000,0:21:17.440 safe and mainly focusing on that and yes we

0:21:17.440,0:21:20.640 want to keep um individuals healthy and safe and that

0:21:20.640,0:21:25.919 is that is a huge thing but we also don't allow

0:21:25.919,0:21:29.440 a lot of folks with disabilities to take risks

0:21:29.440,0:21:36.320 or try something new or fulfill their own goals

0:21:36.320,0:21:41.679
hopes and dreams many don't have that
choice many have a team of people

0:21:41.679,0:21:46.400 working with them making choices for them and so

0:21:46.400,0:21:49.440 um the person-centered planning coordinator we go in

0:21:49.440,0:21:54.000 and we're looking at how we can make sure that everything we do at

0:21:54.000,0:21:58.799 our program for the adults that we work with is

0:21:58.799,0:22:03.120 person-centered are your goals person-centered um

0:22:03.120,0:22:07.200 that's a huge thing so I you know every individual that we serve

0:22:07.200,0:22:10.880 has goals um they can range from life skill

0:22:10.880,0:22:15.120 goals to finding a specific job or gaining a certain

0:22:15.120,0:22:21.600 work skill to obtain a certain job um but we rarely ask like their hopes and

0:22:21.600,0:22:26.799 dreams and what they really want um and we focus

0:22:26.799,0:22:30.799
a lot on what's important for someone versus what's important

0:22:30.799,0:22:35.600 to someone and um it's about finding that balance between

0:22:35.600,0:22:39.440 important for and important too and I use this analogy a lot

0:22:39.440,0:22:43.600 but I know exercise is important for me I understand this

0:22:43.600,0:22:46.960
I know that it's going to decrease my stress

0:22:46.960,0:22:51.520

maybe it's going to get me in shape um
I'm going to feel stronger

0:22:51.520,0:22:57.679
I hate running
that's not important to me so how do we

0:22:57.679,0:23:00.240 find how do we find this balance and we often

0:23:00.240,0:23:04.480 for I I know I've worked in the group homes for for many years before being a

0:23:04.480,0:23:08.000 music therapist and we often are just focused on oh this

0:23:08.000,0:23:12.320 person has maybe you know they need to do

0:23:12.320,0:23:16.080 they may need to lose some weight they maybe have high blood pressure

0:23:16.080,0:23:19.200 or something like that and so we slap a goal on it

0:23:19.200,0:23:22.320 like they need to exercise to lose weight

0:23:22.320,0:23:26.400 the end of the goal well uh there's plenty of

0:23:26.400,0:23:29.600 adults floating around out there with high blood pressure and

0:23:29.600,0:23:32.880 you know high cholesterol and not exercising

0:23:32.880,0:23:35.760 so it and it's not saying and this is where we have to find that balance

0:23:35.760,0:23:38.880 because it's not (Bonnie: right)

Hannah: we don't care about this person's

0:23:38.880,0:23:44.559

well-being um

but what are we you know how are we

0:23:44.559,0:23:47.679

serving

this person it is it is about what they

0:23:47.679,0:23:50.000

want

and you would also find that when you

0:23:50.000,0:23:54.799

listen more to what they want

their quality of life may improve um

0:23:54.799,0:23:57.919

maybe you find out how this person wants to move their body

0:23:57.919,0:24:00.880

other than like going to the gym or walking on a treadmill there's other

0:24:00.880,0:24:03.600

ways

music therapists can come in we can do

0:24:03.600,0:24:07.760

lots of movement

you know yeah so it's about um about

0:24:07.760,0:24:09.760

what

the individual wants and making sure

0:24:09.760,0:24:13.039

that they are heard and people are not really making decisions

0:24:13.039,0:24:17.520

for them yeah and it's a big thing it's a it's kind of a mindset

0:24:17.520,0:24:21.440

that you need to think of but but yeah that's kind of what I do

0:24:21.440,0:24:25.279

it's very long

Bonnie: that's so cool no that's

awesome I think it's so important and

0:24:25.279,0:24:29.200

like so

significant for working with adults with

0:24:29.200,0:24:31.679

disabilities

I loved how you said like there's plenty

0:24:31.679,0:24:35.200

of you know adults that don't exercise and they should

0:24:35.200,0:24:39.600

or you know whatever yeah but so why do we like

0:24:39.600,0:24:43.840

focus like hyper focus on these kind of goals to like kind of almost put people

0:24:43.840,0:24:48.240

in boxes of like

societal standards of like you need to

0:24:48.240,0:24:51.440

be healthy weight

you know and then not taking in any kind

0:24:51.440,0:24:54.400

of

regard for what what do they actually

0:24:54.400,0:24:57.120

want and because you could find that balance of like

0:24:57.120,0:25:00.960

you know finding their interests and exercise I love that you're like using

0:25:00.960,0:25:04.559

music therapy

and like yeah finding different ways to

0:25:04.559,0:25:07.919

maybe

like almost problem solve like how how

0:25:07.919,0:25:11.520

would you want to

solve this problem versus like here's a

0:25:11.520,0:25:15.039

problem and this is the best way to solve it and this is just gonna happen

0:25:15.039,0:25:19.039

to you

Hannah: yes exactly exactly and I find

0:25:19.039,0:25:23.200 so often in working in kind of the realm

of adults with

0:25:23.200,0:25:27.279

uh developmental disabilities we put we put them in a box

0:25:27.279,0:25:32.000 knowing or they say hey I want a job okay well we have

0:25:32.000,0:25:38.720 custodial jobs for you we have hotel work for you okay there are

0:25:38.720,0:25:42.720 um adults that work in our organization that have worked for

0:25:42.720,0:25:46.320 the local hotel that's near us have worked there for 15 and

0:25:46.320,0:25:49.360 20 years they love it that is their thing

0:25:49.360,0:25:52.880 that is theirs that that is what they've loved every single day they

0:25:52.880,0:25:56.320 come to work in a smile with a smile that's some adults

0:25:56.320,0:26:00.960 not all adults want to go do custodial work or work at a hotel or something

0:26:00.960,0:26:05.200 like that and we often put um those adults in a box of

0:26:05.200,0:26:10.000 like well this is kind of your option no you can get creative and that's where 0:26:10.000,0:26:15.039 the person-centered planning comes in um because everyone is an

0:26:15.039,0:26:18.480 individual person with specific wants and

0:26:18.480,0:26:22.799 hopes and dreams and it's kind of our job is like the advocates to kind of

0:26:22.799,0:26:25.760 help make sure that that is heard for them

0:26:25.760,0:26:30.640 **Bonnie:** yeah I love that let's get creative yeah let's do it oh here comes Queenie

0:26:30.640,0:26:35.520 Queenie!

Hannah: hi kitty

Bonnie: yeah and then um Jenny Anderson

0:26:35.520,0:26:38.320 was on a couple episodes ago and she was

0:26:38.320,0:26:41.600 talking about the five f's and they're like the different jobs

0:26:41.600,0:26:45.600 that like you're kind of saying people get kind of boxed into like oh you can

0:26:45.600,0:26:49.679 do this this it was like food filth and whatever the others are and

0:26:49.679,0:26:52.480 her and her brother are part of this organization that

0:26:52.480,0:26:56.960 provides online classes about business for individuals

0:26:56.960,0:26:59.440 with disabilities for adults with disabilities

0:26:59.440,0:27:04.480 to be entrepreneurs because it's not just those jobs and like you said

0:27:04.480,0:27:08.080 some people those are jobs for people that and if that works for them awesome

0:27:08.080,0:27:12.400 but it's not going to work for everybody so how can we get creative with either

0:27:12.400,0:27:16.400 with whatever option works for somebody and get them as involved in those goal

0:27:16.400,0:27:20.320 planning as possible

Hannah: yes yeah and I mean

0:27:20.320,0:27:25.200 it's a huge thing for for those of you who are listening to this podcast if

0:27:25.200,0:27:30.080 you're working in meetings um and the meeting is about someone

0:27:30.080,0:27:34.640 but you're talking at them or to everyone else but them

0:27:34.640,0:27:39.600
just reevaluate it it's their meeting um
whether or not they can communicate back

0:27:39.600,0:27:42.640 to you doesn't matter it's their meeting (Bonnie: right)

0:27:42.640,0:27:46.320

Hannah: you ask them those questions
because it it is their meeting their

0:27:46.320,0:27:49.600 life you know and it and often takes it's just

0:27:49.600,0:27:52.480 thinking about being in their shoes just placing

0:27:52.480,0:27:56.799
yourself in their shoes and it will
it will uh adjust your thinking really

0:27:56.799,0:28:01.600 fast you know if I went in and had you know

0:28:01.600,0:28:05.279 an entire treatment team just talking about me and I didn't

0:28:05.279,0:28:10.460 get to say anything

Bonnie: right yeah and I even approach that my

0:28:10.460,0:28:11.840 with um my kid sessions that way a lot too if

0:28:11.840,0:28:15.120 I'm like debriefing with a parent at the end and the kid's still there I kind of

0:28:15.120,0:28:18.399
get them involved because
again that they're going to pick up on

0:28:18.399,0:28:22.159 that at a younger age too of like these people just keep talking about me

0:28:22.159,0:28:25.440
like I'm not here
and so I'll try to involve them and be

0:28:25.440,0:28:28.880 like you did this today and like and like yeah make it so they're

0:28:28.880,0:28:32.720 included in them in the meeting even at a younger age because I think

0:28:32.720,0:28:36.960 unfortunately, that's just it's not limited to adults with disabilities it's

0:28:36.960,0:28:39.200 limited to like all people with disabilities

0:28:39.200,0:28:43.200 are not limited it's it happens to all people with disabilities unfortunately

0:28:43.200,0:28:45.679

where it's just

okay now we're gonna we're gonna talk

0:28:45.679,0:28:51.360

about you now

Hannah: yeah most definitely most definitely um

0:28:51.360,0:28:57.120

yeah I agree

Bonnie: yeah so with the

person-centered planning coordinator and

0:28:57.120,0:29:01.440

music therapist

uh those are like two separate roles and

0:29:01.440,0:29:03.919

SO

are your music therapy goals something

0:29:03.919,0:29:06.640

that you're doing in these planning meetings

0:29:06.640,0:29:09.679

just kind of want to know like how does the goal setting work for both

0:29:09.679,0:29:14.399

both positions

Hannah: yeah so um

from my person-centered planning

0:29:14.399,0:29:19.840

coordinator position

um I kind of see oversee everyone's

0:29:19.840,0:29:24.559

like broad program goals and what you would call an individual service plan

0:29:24.559,0:29:30.640

um there are times that I

I may see I know I see that individual

0:29:30.640,0:29:34.720

in  $\operatorname{my}$  music therapy classes

um because I'm not assigned um I I

0:29:34.720,0:29:37.760

provide services for whoever just shows

up to my classes but if they're

0:29:37.760,0:29:41.120

consistent

um you know I and I see that they're

0:29:41.120,0:29:43.840

responding

really positively to music and we could

0:29:43.840,0:29:46.320

do a lot of you know a lot of work on their goals

0:29:46.320,0:29:50.720

using music then I can kind of go in and

write that in there

0:29:50.720,0:29:54.320

um and write kind of a specific music
therapy goal

0:29:54.320,0:29:57.600

and and that works it's not for

everybody because I don't see

0:29:57.600,0:30:01.760

everybody so I can sometimes insert

music therapy goals and that can be like

0:30:01.760,0:30:04.000

their official

goal if I know that they're going to be

0:30:04.000,0:30:08.640

consistent but oftentimes it's

I I'm going in with my music therapy

0:30:08.640,0:30:12.799

sessions

with more specific goals um and then in

0:30:12.799,0:30:16.720

the time of COVID

um since I go in and do classes of 20

0:30:16.720,0:30:19.840

people

we don't have specific music therapy

0:30:19.840,0:30:23.760

goals we have big broad ones

um

Bonnie: right which is quality of life like

0:30:23.760,0:30:25.840 you were talking about earlier on the phone

0:30:25.840,0:30:29.120 which is like that's what everybody needs right now so really

0:30:29.120,0:30:33.520
I love that it hones in on like what what do these individuals need now

0:30:33.520,0:30:37.440 versus like again kind of those shoe boxing goals you could still be like

0:30:37.440,0:30:40.559 trying to run after those exercise goals like oh

0:30:40.559,0:30:43.919 but we still need to do this in COVID it's like wait wait step back like

0:30:43.919,0:30:47.919
quality of life's what matters right now
Hannah: exactly exactly and you know it's

0:30:47.919,0:30:50.559 quality of life like I said with the phone call sessions

0:30:50.559,0:30:54.799 same works here in the virtual how many choices can I offer you in a day

0:30:54.799,0:30:58.240 I want to give you as much control as possible

0:30:58.240,0:31:02.000 in my 45 minute to an hour session I have with you

0:31:02.000,0:31:06.159 opportunities for leadership I I love because we have really great leaders and

0:31:06.159,0:31:08.320 that kind of boosts their self-esteem and

0:31:08.320,0:31:12.159

and then it gets them involved with each other virtually because they're watching

0:31:12.159,0:31:16.320 that person instead of me and an emotional expression that that's

0:31:16.320,0:31:18.559 huge um because I don't really know what they're

0:31:18.559,0:31:22.799
being told at home um but like I said
I'm not we're not sugar-coating things

0:31:22.799,0:31:25.919 they're allowed to express how they are feeling that day

0:31:25.919,0:31:28.960 and we talk about it and we sit with them we're like yeah

0:31:28.960,0:31:33.600 a frustrating day today like it's really frustrating

0:31:33.600,0:31:38.080 and that's okay you know **Bonnie**: yeah awesome I love us so much

0:31:38.080,0:31:42.559 awesome so we're kind of wrapping up uh do you have any other resources to share

0:31:42.559,0:31:44.480 is there anything else that you want to share?

0:31:44.480,0:31:50.480 **Hannah:** I I don't really have any resources um but it's like a cry to all the music

0:31:50.480,0:31:54.640 therapists out there give us some more research please with

0:31:54.640,0:31:58.399 with adults with disabilities

Bonnie: oh yes

0:31:59.120,0:32:03.200

Hannah: I appreciate the people doing the

## research

0:32:03.200,0:32:07.919
I don't know if that's my gifting but
we need more we need more resource

0:32:07.919,0:32:12.960 research and resources um because this I I love my job

0:32:12.960,0:32:16.240
I love who I get to work with and people need to know that

0:32:16.240,0:32:19.519

Bonnie: yes I agree especially with adults with disabilities it's not

0:32:19.519,0:32:23.200 a lot of research AMTA had a podcast they released

0:32:23.200,0:32:28.159 as part of their AMTA Pro Podcast and they're like here is all the research on

0:32:28.159,0:32:30.640 adults with disabilities and this podcast is like

0:32:30.640,0:32:33.679
I can't I'm gonna get the time wrong now but it was like an hour you know like it

0:32:33.679,0:32:37.120 was a normal podcast length you know they were able to fit all the research

0:32:37.120,0:32:40.880 into like part of a normal podcast like but I was like oh

0:32:40.880,0:32:47.840 oh no they're like here's the research and it's good research but you know it's

0:32:47.840,0:32:50.399 like we need we need more for sure and then

0:32:50.399,0:32:53.360 also research will be interesting after this year kind of like we've been 0:32:53.360,0:32:56.960 discussing because it's like do we we don't have any research on online stuff

0:32:56.960,0:33:01.600 in any population so what's the plan there?

0:33:01.600,0:33:04.960

Hannah: I don't know it's it's one big adventure
and

0:33:04.960,0:33:09.440
I never thought I would be doing you know music therapy sessions with 20 plus

0:33:09.440,0:33:14.480 people over google classroom

(Bonnie: right)
Hannah: but you're doing it

0:33:14.480,0:33:17.840

Bonnie: yeah it's been a year of definitely

things I never thought I would do

0:33:17.840,0:33:21.200 and they've been they've been good things so

Hannah: yeah

0:33:21.200,0:33:24.799

lots of growth lots of growth

Bonnie: yes
oh perfect word

0:33:24.799,0:33:28.080

awesome so if listeners wanted to contact you for a question

0:33:28.080,0:33:31.279 is there a best way they could find you?

Hannah: can I can I do my email?

0:33:31.279,0:33:35.200

over a podcast? yeah okay yeah

Bonnie: I'll put it in the show notes too

0:33:35.200,0:33:41.600

**Hannah:** okay yeah people can email me um I'm not super active on social media but

0:33:41.600,0:33:46.320 yeah you guys can email me

Hannah.gallagher08@gmail.com 0:33:46.320,0:33:49.840 and I'm happy to answer any questions I love 0:33:49.840,0:33:53.200 advocating for music therapy and especially music therapy with adults 0:33:53.200,0:33:56.640 with disabilities gets me super excited super excited so 0:33:56.640,0:34:00.399 if you have questions email me Bonnie: yay awesome well thank you so 0:34:00.399,0:34:03.600 much for coming on today, Hannah, I can't wait to share this with everybody 0:34:03.600,0:34:07.360 Hannah: yeah thank you for having me this is great Bonnie: All right I hope that you enjoyed 0:34:07.360,0:34:10.159 that conversation with Hannah as much as I did 0:34:10.159,0:34:14.639 it was inspiring to hear how she has pivoted during COVID-19 0:34:14.639,0:34:18.079 to meet her clients' needs in a person-centered way 0:34:18.079,0:34:23.440 and I especially liked the um validation and singing of the Pandemic Can Go Away 0:34:23.440,0:34:28.560 to the Backstreet Boys what a great songwriting activity to

0:34:28.560,0:34:34.560

really capture uh 2020 and how we can validate it but also start working

0:34:34.560,0:34:39.280 towards making things better too and she also had to pivot her goals I

0:34:39.280,0:34:43.280
really liked how
Hannah's now focusing on goals of giving

0:34:43.280,0:34:48.800 her clients a sense of control choice and quality of life and to really

0:34:48.800,0:34:52.000 take into consideration their hopes and dreams

0:34:52.000,0:34:55.520 and what do they want in goal setting during any time

0:34:55.520,0:34:59.359 and to make sure we're not boxing anybody into what our expectations are

0:34:59.359,0:35:02.800 but what do they really want and what do they need and where can we

0:35:02.800,0:35:07.040 find that balance of both to really respect the individual

0:35:07.040,0:35:12.160 and come from that person-centered approach finally I really liked how

0:35:12.160,0:35:15.599
Hannah discussed how it's just one big adventure

0:35:15.599,0:35:20.800 what a positive mindset to have about the pandemic in this year it's

0:35:20.800,0:35:24.560
just one big adventure and she also
mentioned it as a year of growth

0:35:24.560,0:35:28.160 and both of these positive mindsets are really inspiring to me

0:35:28.160,0:35:31.680 to remember that despite circumstances

0:35:31.680,0:35:35.119 see things as an adventure and as growth and we can

0:35:35.119,0:35:39.359
make it better while still validating the difficulties of a situation

0:35:39.359,0:35:44.079 and finally my kind of call to action to everyone is: "Remember to get creative."

0:35:44.079,0:35:47.920 just as Hannah had to get creative with her phone session and with her online

0:35:47.920,0:35:50.320 sessions this is a time where we need to get

0:35:50.320,0:35:54.320 creative in our lives to meet our needs and our clients' needs

0:35:54.320,0:35:58.079 and to better serve adults with disabilities by getting creative and

0:35:58.079,0:36:02.640 coming from that person-centered approach to really meet our clients

0:36:02.640,0:36:06.400 hopes and dreams so now we'll end today's episode with

0:36:06.400,0:36:09.839 our music therapy monthly session plan

0:36:09.839,0:36:12.480 outline so this month we have a fall themed

0:36:12.480,0:36:15.359 music therapy session planned for adults with IDD

0:36:15.359,0:36:19.520 it starts with hello then goes into drumming to "Changes" by David Bowie

0:36:19.520,0:36:23.119 spotlighting different drummers if you're online to a movement

0:36:23.119,0:36:26.400 intervention to "September" by Earth, Wind & Fire

0:36:26.400,0:36:30.000
to a songwriting intervention to "Free
Fallin'" by Tom Petty
0:36:30.000,0:36:33.280
to a relaxation intervention to "Harvest
Moon"

0:36:33.280,0:36:36.400 by Neil Young where you could choose a different fall thing

0:36:36.400,0:36:40.960 or a favorite fall thing to think about or draw as the song is being played

0:36:40.960,0:36:44.079 and then the goodbye song the breakdown of this plan

0:36:44.079,0:36:47.920 and a workshop around session planning for adults with IDD

0:36:47.920,0:36:53.920 is available to patrons on patreon.com/navigatingadulthoodandidd

0:36:53.920,0:36:56.960 where the patrons I like to call Navigators!

0:36:56.960,0:37:02.160 navigators for five dollars a month support the podcast get access to this

0:37:02.160,0:37:06.320 breakdown of the monthly music therapy session plan

0:37:06.320,0:37:10.240 and the breakdown includes a written breakdown a video explaining how I

0:37:10.240,0:37:13.599 would implement the different interventions and sometimes

0:37:13.599,0:37:17.680

extra materials as well including visuals or

0:37:17.680,0:37:22.079
um this month there's a songwriting prompt um and movement cards

0:37:22.079,0:37:26.320 available as well too for the patrons and then you also get

0:37:26.320,0:37:30.880 access to episodes ad free one week early from their release

0:37:30.880,0:37:34.800 so thank you so much for supporting this podcast you can support by becoming a

0:37:34.800,0:37:39.040 navigator on patreon.com/navigatingadulthoodandidd

0:37:39.040,0:37:44.000 or by listening sharing and rating the podcast on iTunes

0:37:44.000,0:37:47.599 any way you support the podcast is so greatly appreciated

0:37:47.599,0:37:50.960 as we continue gathering resources for this

0:37:50.960,0:37:54.880 wonderful population of adults with disabilities

0:37:54.880,0:37:58.640 so that we can really be providing the best services as possible that are

0:37:58.640,0:38:02.400 person-centered that really take into consideration what

0:38:02.400,0:38:05.680 do the adults that we're working with what do they want what are their

0:38:05.680,0:38:08.960 hopes and dreams which I don't feel like we could reiterate 0:38:08.960,0:38:12.720 enough so yeah thanks for listening to another episode and we'll catch you next

0:38:12.720,0:38:15.359 Time!

0:38:15.359,0:38:19.599
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0:38:19.599,0:38:22.880 with content and music produced by Bonnie Houpt

0:38:22.880,0:38:33.839 Thanks for listening!