1

00:00:02,560 --> 00:00:04,520

Megan loves people.

2

00:00:04,520 --> 00:00:09,000

We have tried to set up a flat culture where you

3

00:00:09,000 --> 00:00:10,920

have a family type flat.

4

00:00:10,920 --> 00:00:13,920

She likes to have friends and she's had some really good ones

5

00:00:13,920 --> 00:00:15,400

along the way.

6

00:00:17,200 --> 00:00:23,280

When Megan was born, effectively we ended up at a specialist

7

00:00:23,280 --> 00:00:25,640

when she was 17 weeks old.

8

00:00:25,640 --> 00:00:28,640

And at that time we learned that she had what they thought

9

00:00:28,640 --> 00:00:31,120

would be a global developmental delay.

10

00:00:32,160 --> 00:00:36,160

Being at home for five years with two pre-schoolers is the

11

00:00:36,160 --> 00:00:38,240

hardest job I’ve ever had.

12

00:00:38,240 --> 00:00:39,920

It was somewhat challenging.

13

00:00:39,920 --> 00:00:43,400

Your definition was, you have a global developmental delay.

14

00:00:43,400 --> 00:00:45,560

No one knew what would happen at the end.

15

00:00:45,560 --> 00:00:50,360

And our philosophy was that both girls would have a regular life

16

00:00:50,360 --> 00:00:54,560

like any other child, which meant Megan went to kindergarten

17

00:00:54,560 --> 00:00:55,880

with her peers.

18

00:00:55,880 --> 00:01:00,120

She went to the local school and had a teacher aid.

19

00:01:00,120 --> 00:01:03,120

Went to a nearby intermediate and then the

20

00:01:03,120 --> 00:01:04,320

local college.

21

00:01:04,320 --> 00:01:06,920

And she was fully mainstream throughout.

22

00:01:06,920 --> 00:01:11,200

And so for those first years, you've just got to go for it

23

00:01:11,200 --> 00:01:14,200

and try and maximize the learning and do everything

24

00:01:14,200 --> 00:01:15,840

her peers were doing.

25

00:01:15,840 --> 00:01:21,760

We went and contracted Community Connections to

26

00:01:21,760 --> 00:01:23,280

provide services.

27

00:01:24,080 --> 00:01:29,080

The big advantage is that Community Connections, they’re part of

28

00:01:29,080 --> 00:01:32,080

a much bigger team, so they have more ideas about what's going

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00:01:32,080 --> 00:01:33,560

on in the community.

30

00:01:33,560 --> 00:01:36,280

What other people with disabilities are doing.

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00:01:36,280 --> 00:01:40,520

I really like the way that it is set out as an agreement

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00:01:40,520 --> 00:01:43,520

between Megan Baker and Community Connections,

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00:01:43,520 --> 00:01:46,520

which really puts the focus of this agreement on

34

00:01:46,520 --> 00:01:49,360

Megan and what her particular needs are.

35

00:01:50,240 --> 00:01:53,240

The service agreement we had with Megan and Judy,

36

00:01:53,240 --> 00:01:56,240

we actually worked on it in partnership.

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00:01:56,240 --> 00:01:57,520

It was a collaboration.

38

00:01:57,520 --> 00:02:01,280

So what I have done is when we met the first few times we've

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00:02:01,280 --> 00:02:05,080

discussed what support we could potentially provide as a

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00:02:05,080 --> 00:02:05,960

provider.

41

00:02:05,960 --> 00:02:08,320

What is the best way to communicate with Megan?

42

00:02:08,320 --> 00:02:10,520

What is the best way to communicate with you?

43

00:02:10,520 --> 00:02:12,200

When are we going to be involved?

44

00:02:12,200 --> 00:02:16,240

When can we agree to review things and how do we make it

45

00:02:16,240 --> 00:02:18,560

work for everyone?

46

00:02:18,560 --> 00:02:20,920

So I guess from here what would be helpful would be to have a

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00:02:20,920 --> 00:02:26,840

better idea of where are the gaps really in Megan's life and where

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00:02:26,840 --> 00:02:31,400

do you need someone to come in and provide some support.

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00:02:31,400 --> 00:02:35,760

First path plan I've come across was probably eight years ago

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00:02:35,760 --> 00:02:38,760

when I met Megan for the first time and she had this lovely

51

00:02:38,760 --> 00:02:42,760

document that was showing the things she wanted

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00:02:42,760 --> 00:02:44,280

to achieve.

53

00:02:44,280 --> 00:02:46,520

Being able to be a part of that conversation as a provider was

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00:02:46,520 --> 00:02:50,840

really helpful to help us have a better idea and a bigger picture of

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00:02:50,840 --> 00:02:54,480

where we were heading and what did we need to put into

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00:02:54,480 --> 00:02:56,800

place to make it happen?

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00:02:57,800 --> 00:03:02,000

Hilary and Simon have both been helping you do lots of these

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00:03:02,000 --> 00:03:05,000

things that are in this vision on your path plan.

59

00:03:05,920 --> 00:03:10,360

The key thing that Community Connections has brought is a

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00:03:10,360 --> 00:03:14,160

regular meeting, and we call it team Megan.

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00:03:14,160 --> 00:03:20,880

And that team meeting is critical to bring both parties together

62

00:03:20,880 --> 00:03:23,560

and just go through how things are working.

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00:03:23,560 --> 00:03:25,720

And you can test ideas,

64

00:03:25,720 --> 00:03:27,080

talk about suggestions,

65

00:03:27,080 --> 00:03:29,000

ways to do things better.

66

00:03:29,560 --> 00:03:33,560

Megan likes being able to choose her support workers and have

67

00:03:33,560 --> 00:03:37,080

people she wants because we can get the right sort of

68

00:03:37,080 --> 00:03:40,720

personalities, the people who she will connect with.

69

00:03:42,240 --> 00:03:44,320

And that’s Kate playing the guitar.

70

00:03:44,320 --> 00:03:45,520

Oh, how good is that?

71

00:03:45,520 --> 00:03:46,760

And that’s Katie.

72

00:03:46,760 --> 00:03:47,920

Oh, no way.

73

00:03:47,920 --> 00:03:49,840

Everyone looks, you look so good.

74

00:03:49,840 --> 00:03:51,560

You look so good with the poi.

75

00:03:51,560 --> 00:03:53,240

Look at you go.

76

00:03:53,240 --> 00:03:55,600

You’re doing the sign language version of Te Aroha.

77

00:03:55,600 --> 00:03:57,600

Look at how good you are.

78

00:03:57,600 --> 00:04:03,520

So Megan was fairly quiet, and she didn't really want to engage a

79

00:04:03,520 --> 00:04:05,200

lot with me to begin with.

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00:04:05,200 --> 00:04:08,760

I reckon after about six months of her and I spending time

81

00:04:08,760 --> 00:04:11,400

together, it really turned a corner.

82

00:04:11,400 --> 00:04:14,320

She was very, very chatty.

83

00:04:15,480 --> 00:04:17,520

How’s the flatting going for Megan?

84

00:04:17,520 --> 00:04:18,680

It's going really good.

85

00:04:18,680 --> 00:04:22,760

She's now made the transition from home to her flat,

86

00:04:22,760 --> 00:04:24,640

and that's where she likes to be when her

87

00:04:24,640 --> 00:04:26,200

flatmates are there.

88

00:04:26,200 --> 00:04:27,880

Paul and I were really keen for Megan

89

00:04:27,880 --> 00:04:28,880

to go flatting.

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00:04:28,880 --> 00:04:30,080

We couldn't wait.

91

00:04:30,080 --> 00:04:33,920

The challenge was to make it happen and how

92

00:04:33,920 --> 00:04:35,080

to make it happen.

93

00:04:35,640 --> 00:04:40,200

We ended up deciding that Megan would live with other

94

00:04:40,200 --> 00:04:44,440

non-disabled people, basically carrying on the philosophy that

95

00:04:44,440 --> 00:04:49,120

she's having a normal life like anyone else and like her sister.

96

00:04:49,840 --> 00:04:51,080

Megan what are we making today?

97

00:04:51,080 --> 00:04:52,400

Coffee and banana cake.

98

00:04:52,400 --> 00:04:53,920

Cool shall we get started?

99

00:04:54,520 --> 00:04:56,720

The flat has been really wonderful for Megan’s social

100

00:04:56,720 --> 00:04:57,680

development.

101

00:04:57,680 --> 00:05:01,040

It's made her more aware of other people in her life as well.

102

00:05:01,040 --> 00:05:03,520

So more considerate of those other people as well.

103

00:05:03,520 --> 00:05:07,640

Her confidence has skyrocketed during this period as well, so it's

104

00:05:07,640 --> 00:05:08,800

been wonderful for her.

105

00:05:09,880 --> 00:05:12,880

I would feel wrapped if we could just go away

106

00:05:12,880 --> 00:05:15,560

and Megan's life just happens like

107

00:05:15,560 --> 00:05:16,520

clockwork.

108

00:05:16,520 --> 00:05:21,520

The life for Megan that is going to have all the necessary

109

00:05:21,520 --> 00:05:27,720

protections in it to ensure that she has a good life and her health

110

00:05:27,720 --> 00:05:29,560

and wellbeing is looked after.