

Dear Music Therapy Colleague,

We are delighted to have you with us today. *Raising Harmony* $^{\text{TM}}$ *Music Therapy for Young Children* was created to provide music therapists, other professionals and families with information, training and resources on music, music therapy and music in early childhood. *Raising Harmony* $^{\text{TM}}$ will sponsor continuing education, practice development, access to publications, trainings, and referrals.

Another facet of $Raising\ Harmony^{\text{TM}}$ is to fill a void we believe exists within our field - successful and marketable early childhood music programs specific to music therapists. Meredith created Sprouting Melodies several years ago and it is already a popular, award winning model of a community music therapy-based early childhood program. It has its roots in early intervention music therapy groups but connects with all families looking for a place in which they and their child can sing, play, move, and grow. Sprouting Melodies is designed to be flexible as well as music-therapy based and focuses first on overall development rather than music skill building. Sprouting Melodies will assure quality since all providers will be board certified music therapists and will have continuing education credits in early childhood music development through $Raising\ Harmony^{\text{TM}}$. However, the Sprouting Melodies provider will choose their music and tailor their sessions to meet the developmental needs of the children and families.

We feel that it is time for music therapists to be recognized for their unique expertise in music, understanding of disability, early childhood development and group dynamics. We are reaching out to music therapists, like you, with a passion and interest in early childhood to join us in bringing music therapybased early childhood experiences to more young children and their families. We strongly believe that Sprouting Melodies offers music therapists a chance to use all of their training, skills and experience to bring the best possible early childhood music program to each group they lead, with flexibility and understanding of individual group needs. We are the only group we know of that have that skill set. Therefore, we offer a branded program, with structured age-specific groupings, and training in music for young children, early childhood development and music development. Our greatest excitement about this program is to introduce music therapists to an early childhood music program that is designed by and for music therapists!

We welcome you to join us on this journey.

Meredith R. Pizzi MT-BC

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