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## Christian Nielsen MT-BC Summary of Qualifications & Experience

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### Professional History:

**Music Therapy Practice-** Since completing my music therapy degree and board-certification, I have provided services to individuals and organizations on a contractual basis. Most of my work now is in hospice care. The organizations I have contracted with are too numerous to list entirely. Below are a few of the more major contracts.

#### **Ridgeview Medical Center: Hospice** (March 1, 2001 – present)

Waconia, MN

Services Provided:

- Developed and implemented a hospice music therapy program
- Working as a member of the interdisciplinary team using music to meet the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of our hospice clients and their families
- Assisting in providing bereavement care and services to our families

I joined this team shortly after the founding of Ridgeview's Hospice program as the first music therapist. What started as a small program and minimal time commitment has turned into a large successful program with strong community support that makes up a large part of my current professional activity.

#### **Carver-Scott Educational Cooperative** (September 2001 – June 2002)

Chaska, MN

Services Provided: Consulting and development services to design music therapy interventions for teens with chemical dependency and emotional/behavioral issues in the educational and corrections settings.

#### **Park Nicollet Clinics: Center for Lifestyle Renewal** (July 1, 2000 – October 2001)

Saint Louis Park, MN

Services Provided:

- Developed and implemented a music therapy program for clients with chronic pain and chronic health issues
- Integrating music therapy with other complimentary and medical treatment modalities as part of a diverse interdisciplinary team that included physicians, nurses, occupation therapists, physical therapists, Qigong and healing touch practitioners, chiropractor

#### **English Rose Suites** (December 1999 - March 2001)

Edina, MN

Services Provided: Develop and implement a music therapy program for people who have Alzheimer's Dementia in three small, home-like settings.

**Past related work experience-** Prior to work as a music therapist I have 10 years of experience in the health care and human services fields working as a Recreation Therapist, Group Home Counselor, Home Health Aide, and TMA. Organizations included: Lutheran Social Services, Catholic Charities, Northeast Respite Care, REM Inc., Dungarvin, and Opportunity Partners. I can give more information on request. I also have 20+ years of experience as a professional performing musician and taught guitar lessons for 4 years during college.

### **Other professional activities-**

Most of my other professional activities are related to bereavement and grief support for hospices, health systems, funeral homes, faith organizations, and grief coalitions. This includes: music performance, interactive music experiences, counseling, consulting, composition, music production recording, and speaking. I have done audiovisual consulting with organizations such as the Methodist Hospital Radiation Oncology department. I provide music therapy to a number of individual clients. I also have a successful business of creating and selling recordings for relaxation and meditation. There is more information on my web site: [www.nielsenmtbc.com](http://www.nielsenmtbc.com)

**Organizations Served-** The following is a very condensed list of organizations for which I have provided music therapy, performing, bereavement programming, production services, speaking, and/or consulting.

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| Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church | MS Society                                     |
| Allina   | Park Nicollet                                  |
| Alphabet Junction Childcare                      | Piper Jaffrey                                  |
| Alzheimer's Association                          | Plymouth Congregational Church (Mpls.)         |
| Aviv Healthcare                                  | Prospect Park United Methodist Church ((Mpls.) |
| Beverly Healthcare                               | Southwest Metropolitan Grief Coalition         |
| Calvary Lutheran Church (Golden Valley)          | St. Mary's Hospice & Hospital (Duluth)         |
| Camp Connect / Camp Starlight                    | Unity Unitarian Church (St. Paul)              |
| Central Lutheran Church (Mpls.)                  | Waconia Foster Care                            |
| Children's Hospitals & Clinics                   | Waconia Good Samaritan Home                    |
| Children of Tomorrow                             | Walker Community Methodist Church (Mpls.)      |
| Fairview   | Wesley United Methodist Church (Mpls.)         |
| Families Growing Through Grief Retreat           | Westminster Presbyterian Church ((Mpls.)       |
| Methodist Hospital                               | Many others...                                 |
| Minneapolis Council of Churches                  |  |

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### Education & Training:

**Lakewood Community College** (Now Century College), White Bear Lake, MN

Major: Music

**Normandale Community College**, Bloomington, MN

Major: Nursing (did not complete degree because I transferred to Augsburg for Music Therapy)

**Augsburg College**, Minneapolis, MN

Major: Music Therapy

Minor: American Indian Studies

Degree Earned: Bachelor of Science in Music Therapy in 1999

### **Internship: HealthSystem Minnesota (Park Nicollet) / Methodist Hospital**

- 1040 hours of training in Hospice, Oncology, and at the Struther's Parkinson's Center
- Training included: clinical experience; assessment skills; documentation of goals, objectives, and progress notes; several projects and participation as member of interdisciplinary team.
- Created "Healing Blue Sky: Music Assisted Relaxation" (CD & MP3) that is still used in oncology, and Parkinson's areas.
- Developed pilot program with Park Nicollet Lifestyle Renewal Program for individuals with chronic pain.

**Completed Board Certification Requirements-** November of 2000

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### Other Projects:

**Music Therapy Presentations-** I have presented at State, Regional, and National Music Therapy Conferences. I have also presented for many other groups.

**Recordings-** I have composed, recorded and produced over 10 albums for relaxation and meditation. I have sold thousands of copies and sold mp3 downloads to people all over the world. Please visit [www.musictherapycd.com](http://www.musictherapycd.com) for more information or to listen. The music I use in my practice is more diverse than the music you would hear on my recordings

**Writing-** I have written articles for publications and web-sites and for publications internal to Ridgeview Medical Center and Park Nicollet Health Services.