

Barbara Else



Barbara Else is Senior Advisor, Research and Policy with the American Music Therapy Association (AMTA). Barbara has extensive experience as a hospital-based music therapist and as a researcher in health policy and economics. Her clinical focus is with children and adults on issues associated with disaster response, trauma, and recovery. Barbara maintains a part-time practice that includes work in community-based services and with active duty military and their families.

Ms. Else was recipient of a post-graduate fellowship working in the U.S. House of Representatives and for the U.S.P.H.S., Agency for Healthcare Policy and Research (renamed to AHRQ) in medical effectiveness research, policy analysis, and grants management.

Barbara provides domestic and international training and was keynote speaker in Ankara, Turkey for a NATO-sponsored advanced science symposium on the use of music therapy to mitigate the after effects of terrorism. She was invited speaker in Chengdu, China and Taipei, Taiwan on the role of music therapy and psychological first aid for first and second responders in emergency services. Her publication credits focus on health policy, research methods, trauma and music therapy, and health economics.

Barbara volunteers with the American Red Cross and the U.S. Medical Reserve Corps in disaster services/mental health and training. She coordinates disaster response services for the AMTA and serves in an advisory role in the same capacity for the World Federation of Music Therapy. As a musician, Barb is active in the jazz scene and is a part-time studio recording artist specializing in concert and ethnic flutes.

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