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*Kathleen Walsh (MT-BC, M.Ed., BCBA)*  
*Director of Behavioral Programming and Support*

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**Role:**

As the Director of the Behavioral Programming and Support Department, I oversee the executive inter-departmental manager and inter-departmental managers over insurance, state-services, and academy support.

**Career History:**

I began my career as a music therapist graduating in 1997. I established a successful private practice working alongside Arizona State University as a faculty associate to educate, supervise, and provide internships to students seeking degrees in the fields of music therapy and education.

In 2006 I was approached by the co-founders of Lauren's Institute for Education to become a co-clinical director for their organization. When the doors opened in August of 2007 the journey began.

After a short leave from L.I.F.E. to teach as a faculty associate for Arizona State University at the Mary Lou Fulton Teacher's College, I returned to L.I.F.E. to develop the Behavioral Programming and Support Department.

**Education and Special Certifications:**

- Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA), 2012
- M.A. of Special Education – Autism Emphasis, Arizona State University, 2011
- Music Therapy Board Certification, 1997
- B.S. in Music: Music Therapy, Arizona State University, 1997

**Personal Teaching or Management Philosophy:**

The unique multidisciplinary perspective I have acquired in serving individuals with developmental disabilities as a Music Therapist and as a BCBA has assisted me in helping L.I.F.E. develop a transdisciplinary approach to treatment, where professionals such as medical providers, teachers, direct care providers, physical, music, occupational, and speech therapists all work together. My ultimate hope is for the Behavior Programming and Support Department to provide families with the tools that they need to improve the quality of life for their children and their families.

**Personal:**

I have been happily married for 27 years and have two very talented children, one in the Navy and the other an aspiring Nurse. I love music, children, and animals.