

Basic Detail Report



Title Interview with Erin Haggan

Date 2022 August 15

Primary Maker Peter Moran

Medium born digital audio file

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Description (a) Interview with Erin Haggan. Interviewed by Peter Moran on

August 15, 2022 at Otis Library, 261 Main Street, Norwich. (b) Photograph of Erin Haggan taken at her interview. She was interviewed as part of the Connecticut Historical Society's Community History Project discussing her experience during the COVID-19 Pandemic. At the time of the interview Erin was the Norwich Youth and Family Services Manager. She holds a master's degree in social work. Erin gave birth to a daughter named Brooklyn during the pandemic, who was born with Trisomy 18. Erin discusses her pregnancy during COVID and how she is able to schedule regular medical care and childcare for her daughter, despite a shortage of nurses. She also shared how COVID affected her, her husband, and their daughter when they contracted it. Erin discussed her adjustment to working from home and using virtual meeting software, as well as how her staff pivoted to continue providing services to their community during COVID. She did receive the vaccine, but did not have her daughter receive it because she did not know how her daughter's body would react. She did not disagree with vaccine mandates but felt that employers should have paid for mandatory COVID tests if their staff were not getting vaccinated. She agreed with mask mandates. Erin did not watch a lot of news, so she received updates about COVID from her husband. However, she does recall being in disbelief while watching the U.S. Capitol insurrection on January 6, 2021. She noted that some of her relationships were strained because of political differences, but she also strengthened her relationship with her husband. Erin's mental health improved during the pandemic because she was able to dedicate more time to self-care. She also

Basic Detail Report

learned to set boundaries with people, particularly when it came to making too

many plans and filling her schedule. During the pandemic, Erin lost her dog,

Bowman, who died abruptly. She found a deeper spiritual connection. Erin's

advice to people experiencing a future pandemic is to use the time to self-reflect

and be better for yourself.

Dimensions Duration: 1 Hour, 37 Minutes, 49 Seconds