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## SKILLS TAUGHT DURING THERAPY WITH PATTI AGES 12+

- Assessment of strengths and roadblocks to success
- Skill building around independence.
  - Money management and budgeting
  - Maintaining a living space
  - Being a good neighbor / roommate
- Skill building for personal growth.
  - Developing healthy patterns of living and learning
  - Academic or employment planning
  - Goal planning and attainment
- Skill building toward creating a sustainable and enjoyable life.
  - Expanding a positive sense of self
  - Developing coping strategies for everyday struggles
  - Enhancing social interactions
  - Giving back as a way of giving to self
  - Improving relationships with friends and family
  - Pursuing spiritual interests
  - Choosing health and fitness

Even **parents** who are confident in their child rearing skills may feel they have entered uncharted territory when relating to the struggles facing a young person transitioning to adulthood. Received with little or no credibility, helplessness and frustration may set in. To create changes that support positive parent/young adult interactions the following areas are addressed:

- Skill building around parenting a young adult vs. a child.
  - Communication with the Young Adult
  - Expectations vs. suggestions
  - Avoiding the "double binds"
  - Team approach between parents
  - Bringing the expectations of the outside world into the home
  - Understanding how Young Adults learn
- Parent self-care and relationship building
  - Keeping healthy
  - You are not your child's choices.
  - Spouses working together to recognize common goals.
  - Prioritizing the spousal relationship