

A hand up, not a hand out

Starfish helps individuals and families create a personal success story through strategic programs and focused outreach.

By providing access to the right resources at the right time, children and their families are better equipped to cope with challenges related to education, financial management and mental health issues. This helps prevent serious setbacks to a family's standard of living and quality of life.

Deidre is a young mother who sought Starfish services as a troubled teen and later as a new mom.

"In the past, I dealt with my problems by being violent towards others. The counseling I received helped me deal with my problems in better ways. Therapy helped me learn new, positive ways to express my feelings. My daughter has a therapist at Starfish who helps me teach her new things, look for developmental cues, and videotapes me so that I can see how I interact with my daughter. I've been in many great Starfish programs and all have been life changing for me."

Volunteers help us get the job done

Those who volunteer their time will find a richly rewarding experience - whether they help in the classroom, our community garden, with literacy programs, or assist with food drives. There is always a need.

Our volunteer resource coordinator will place you in a role tailored to your interests. Call us today to arrange a visit: 734. 728. 3400.



Your commitment helps reach more families

Philanthropy- from individuals and business owners to corporations and foundations - helps sustain our community of caring.

Your donation to Starfish helps revive a community. Your gift offers hope in times of despair, when all seems dark, and supplies the needed tools to help families work things out. Through empowerment, education, and connecting vulnerable children, teens, and adults to professional staff and volunteers, Starfish offers brighter opportunities.

The work we do has a profound impact on the communities we serve. We have helped more than two generations of children reach their potential and become productive members of society. Our work is impossible without the help of supporters like you. Make a donation today and join us in assisting this new generation of children become the best they can be.



STARFISH
FAMILY SERVICES

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STARFISH
FAMILY SERVICES

Strengthening families to create brighter futures for children.

Helping children and families thrive

We are wrapping our arms around children and their families in Wayne County to improve their quality of life through integrated educational programs and social services.

Starfish has more than 50 years of experience providing the highest caliber of programs in early childhood education, parenting programs and mental health services that improve lives. We work directly with children and parents/caregivers in a family-focused environment at our main location in Inkster, our 16 other locations, and during home visits. We employ more than 400 professionals - including educators, social workers, psychiatrists, nurses, and nutritionists. Our efforts touch thousands of lives every day.



Changing lives

Our services make a difference in the lives of children, their families, and the community.

It takes a village to raise a child, and Starfish embraces this creed.

Early childhood education

We prepare young children for a successful start to school by teaching foundational skills: numbers, colors, letters and words, and by modeling social skills. We start young - at birth to age three - with early education. This includes teaching and coaching parents how to be their child's best teacher. Children ages 3 to 5 attend our high quality programs which are consistently recognized as among the best in the region.

Parenting programs

We work with parents and other caregivers to help them be great role models. Our services are confidential and cater to each family's needs. We offer a mentoring program that provides parents with peer-to-peer support and additional resources.

Mental health services

Our clinical services help create healthy relationships and a better home environment. We help children with mental health issues and developmental needs through counseling, peer support, and mentoring.

Youth services

Adolescence is a time of great physical and emotional change that can bring up issues of independence and identity. We offer a spectrum of youth services including our After School and Summer Enrichment programs which provide children and teens a safe, stimulating place to learn and develop social skills. Our staff works to improve academic interest, promote cultural exploration, build life skills, and encourage high self-esteem with assistance from parents and the community.

Spotlight on an innovative, life-changing program

Baby Power is just one example of the dozens of programs that we offer with outcomes that are life changing for the majority of parents and children involved in them.

Post-partum depression can be an obstacle to successful early parenting. We work with pregnant mothers to reduce the risk of maternal depression and anxiety, which can also impact their baby's mental health. Our workshops help parents better understand their role as a teacher and their responsibility for their child's healthy growth and development.



Making a difference

A good family relationship during childhood provides children with a sense of belonging and an overall sense of well-being which serves as a foundation for having an optimistic, purposeful outlook on life. Sadly, childhood isn't always ideal. Our Shelter and Crisis Center for at-risk teens helps in many ways. We offer crisis services when teens need a voice of reason and someone to trust with issues they face.

