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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Starfish Family Services Announces David A. Williams as Chief Administrative Officer

INKSTER, MICH. (September 15, 2017) – Starfish Family Services recently welcomed David A. Williams as its new Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). Williams will add leadership, direction and inspiration to support advancement at Starfish and further propel the organization's mission.

"It's an honor to join such a focused and committed organization," said Williams. "Discovering the emotional paycheck one achieves in cause related work has been the secret to a fulfilled professional life. Starfish continues that quest for me."

Williams takes over for Cindy Murdock, who retired in August and formerly served as the organization's Chief Operations Officer (COO). The position has been renamed to CAO to better reflect the responsibilities of the role.

Prior to joining Starfish, Williams spent 20 years in leadership roles at the Michigan Humane Society (MHS). As the organization's COO, Williams oversaw the operations of numerous departments and activities across the state. At MHS, he put his expertise to work leading many initiatives that required programmatic, facilities, financial and fundraising expertise.

"David comes well equipped to propel Starfish forward with his extensive background of success in operations, logistics and human resources," said Ann Kalass, Chief Executive Officer. "But it's his values and commitment to service that truly set him apart as the perfect fit for Starfish."

As the son of a minister, Williams' upbringing taught him the value of a strong community that supports one another. That mission has driven him to serve on various nonprofit boards over the years as well as serving as a church elder and participating in a church mission trip with his daughter this past summer.

Williams graduated with a Bachelor of Science from the University of Arizona and earned his MBA from University of Phoenix.

**About Starfish Family Services**: Founded in 1963, Starfish Family Services is a private, nonprofit agency serving vulnerable children and families in metropolitan Detroit. Our passion is early childhood development. We strive to prepare young children for a successful start to school. Our programs and services uniquely recognize and respect the important role of parents and other caregivers in the long-term success of children. As a leading provider of Early Head Start and Head Start programs we embrace a comprehensive strategy that also works to address the complex challenges that children and their families may face in their every-day lives. In addition to early childhood services, we provide parenting programs, children's mental health services, after-school programs, and youth services <a href="https://www.starfishfamilysevrices.org">www.starfishfamilysevrices.org</a>.