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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**STARFISH FAMILY SERVICES WELCOMES MARK E. BAKER TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**INKSTER, MICH. April 22, 2016** – Starfish Family Services is pleased to announce Mark E. Baker has been appointed to the organization’s Board of Directors.

Mark E. Baker is the senior vice president and commercial banking group manager for PNC Bank-Southeast Michigan. He has been associated with PNC since 2005. He currently serves on the board of Ann Arbor SPARK, Grow Michigan Fund, and the Northville Educational Foundation.

“We are really excited to add Mark’s perspective, energy, and commitment to the community to our board. His strategic thinking and leadership will help move our organization forward,” said Ann Kalass, Chief Executive Officer.

Though Mark grew up just two miles away from Starfish headquarters in Westland, Michigan, he learned of Starfish through PNC colleagues. Starfish and PNC share a commitment to the healthy development of young children. “My colleagues had great things to say about Starfish, and as a son of two educators I’ve always valued early education. My mom taught special education so my family experience was one of helping those who could use additional resources.” He continues, “I’m looking forward to contributing to the great work that Starfish does.”

Mr. Baker received a B.S. in Actuarial Mathematics from the University of Michigan. He resides in Northville, Michigan with his wife and son.

**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 life. In addition to early childhood services, we provide parenting programs, children’s mental health services, after-school programs, and other youth services including an emergency shelter for teens and youth in crisis. [www.starfishfamilysevrices.org](http://www.starfishfamilysevrices.org).