



The Early Childhood Education (ECE) Center, established and operated by Starfish, is part of the Marygrove P-20 education model. What is P-20? An all-in-one campus offering a continuum of support for families starting with **prenatal** partnership and extending to **K-12 and pathways beyond**. It is also called Cradle-to-Career. P-20 is located on the beautiful 53-acre Marygrove Conservancy campus in Northwest Detroit, situated in the Livernois-McNichols community.

Why is P-20 so revolutionary?

P-20 is transforming the educational landscape in Detroit. Grounded in social justice, equitable opportunity, and commitment to community, the P-20 model honors the 90+ year legacy of Marygrove College by elevating it to a new standard of exceptional. By providing access to high-quality education and holistic support services, students and families are empowered to define their own futures and that of their own neighborhood.

What is the Starfish role?

Based on our nearly 60 years of leadership in early childhood development, Starfish was chosen to establish and operate an exemplar Early Childhood Education (ECE) Center that sets the foundation for the opportunities on the P-20 campus. Together with the P-20 partners, Starfish will implement and test new best practices that can be replicated regionally and nationally.

Starfish ECE innovations

Whole child focus

- Integrated behavioral & developmental health services
- Informed culture of trauma care

Whole family focus

- Parenting classes, prenatal support, childcare
- Parent leadership opportunities

A new benchmark for education

- Starfish and leading University of Michigan education scholars created a full-day culturally responsive curriculum specifically for the ECE Center, focusing on equity, STEM, and social studies
- Cutting-edge and aligned to latest research and standards

A pioneering program for educators

- Our ancillary teaching school will build a talent pool of exceptional urban early childhood educators



27,000

Children in Detroit lack access to early childhood education (source: IFF).

\$50 MILLION INVESTMENT



Largest into a Detroit neighborhood in the city's history.

Seeded by: The Kresge Foundation

144



The number of children (ages 0 to 5) who will be served through the Early Childhood Education Center.

TIMELINE

Groundbreaking:
Late 2019

Classes begin:
September 2021



Enrollment:
Spring 2020

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CENTER



Welcoming, Peaceful, Inspired

- 28,000 sq/ft one-story building with a wide-open entryway inviting to parents, children, staff, neighbors, visitors.
- Material and color honors the integrity of the existing campus, and simultaneously celebrates the center as a place of new beginnings. Terracotta tiles create a “quilt of many colors” that hugs the building.
- Exterior landscape incorporates new pathways through the existing tree-filled campus, allowing children the chance to explore nature and investigate outside learning zones.
- The 30,000 sq/ft playscape provides the freedom to run and imagine.

Friendly, Playful, Open

- Our design is centered around 3 courtyards that flood the rooms with sunshine and create a natural oasis.
- Open floor plan offers a welcoming environment for gatherings, socializing, and flexibility of using spaces.
- Families in mind: parent lounge, lactation room.



Mindful, Holistic, Healthy

- Spacious classrooms: 6 infant/toddler + 4 preschool + 2 flexible for 3-year-olds.
- Small class size: no more than 8 children in infant/toddler classrooms & 16 children in preschool.
- Comprehensive health suite of services:
 - sensory room
 - play-therapy room
 - health room
- Dedicated staff space: A wellness lounge intentionally designed to support the well-being of Starfish early childhood teams.
- Informed by community, neighbors, parents, and children + best practices in behavioral health and early childhood education.

