

STARR BATTLE CREEK

LIFE SKILLS

SUPERVISED INDEPENDENT LIVING

155 Garfield Ave. Battle Creek, MI 49037 269.968.9287 800.225.7529 starrbattlecreek.org
Sabrina Corbin, Executive Director, corbins@starr.org



Overview:

- **General Philosophy:** Strength-based, Positive Youth Development
- **Community-Based Program:** Provides 24/7 crisis intervention and staff supervision to youth residing with home providers
- **Population:** Abuse/neglect and/or adjudicated males and females, ages 16-20 years old
- **Program Length:** Varies by individual treatment needs and court-ordered specifications

Treatment Model:

- **Group Meetings:** Weekly substance abuse and anger management group meetings if applicable.
- **Life Space Crisis Intervention:** Staff are trained in verbal crisis intervention and skill development.
- **Trauma-Informed Care:** Staff are trained in techniques through The National Institute for Trauma and Loss in Children (TLC) to help youth who have been subjected to traumatic events.
- **Motivational Interviewing:** Staff are trained in techniques geared to increase the child's internal motivation for change.
- **Education:** Youth attend local community schools. Independent Living Counselors assist youth with enrolling in appropriate academic settings, as well as monitor school progress and provide academic support.
- **Individual & Family Counseling/Home Visits:** Independent Living Counselors meet with and help youth and involved family members or caregivers define and obtain appropriate treatment goals.
- **Service Learning Restorative Activities:** B.A.R.J. activities are structured, planned for each student and peer group.
- **Medical and Dental Services:** Medical needs are met by licensed, community-based doctors. Emergency medical care provided at local community hospitals. Licensed dental care provided by providers in the local community.
- **Psychiatric Services:** Youth will be referred for Starr's psychiatric services when needed.
- **Ansell Casey Assessment:** Provides information from the viewpoint of youth. The Ansell-Casey Life Skills Assessment gives a clear idea of the independent living skills that youth have already mastered and in what areas assistance is needed.

- **Life Skills:** Formal and informal education and training in the development of life skills for each student. All students are assisted with obtaining skills in job seeking, resume writing, budgeting, cooking, conflict resolution, appropriate health/hygiene skills, etc.
- **Advocacy:** Intended to link families to community resources that promote family stability.
- **Substance Abuse Education and Counseling:** Available for youth and families when needed.
- **Scholarships:** Post-secondary academic scholarships are available. Students must apply by the posted deadline and be in good academic standing to be considered.
- **Transportation:** Youth and their families are provided limited transportation services to accommodate school enrollment, court hearings, drug screening, therapeutic appointments and other situations that may apply. Other transportation services must be arranged by youth as needed.
- **Continuing Services Planning and Follow-up:** For each student, a written Independent Living Plan is created by the student and worker to assist youth with planning for independence. Continuing Services are provided for up to one year post-placement as needed.
- **Cultural Competence:** Cultural diversity is evident in all of Starr's programs, and Starr staff work with youth to promote a loving and accepting atmosphere.

Continuum of Care

Starr provides a comprehensive continuum of programs that meet the individual needs of youth and families at every stage – from residential to foster care to community-based – with family-centered and child-focused services.



Starr Commonwealth is internationally recognized as a leader in transformational programs for children, families, schools and communities. Founded in 1913, Starr's treatment philosophy is rooted in seeing something good in every child, which serves as the guiding principle in its strength-based approach. Starr offers a full spectrum of community-based early intervention and prevention services along with specialized residential programs. Through the Starr Institute for Training, parents, clinicians, educators and childcare professionals now have access to Starr's highly successful and innovative techniques aimed at bringing out the best in every child.