

*The Detroit Institute for
Children operates on two
profound principles:
provide compassionate,
expert care to children
with special needs and to
treat the whole child, not
just the disability.*

our values

Impact Where others see limits or disabilities, we see potential and possibilities.

Collaboration Working as a team with families, caregivers, and our partners to create an environment that supports and nurtures development and independent functioning for children with special needs.

Growth Continuous learning and innovation in order to be the voice of knowledge and influence within our communities.

Integrity Uncompromising honesty and accountability to our employees, donors, partners, and the children and families we serve.

Community Improving the lives and experiences of children with special needs and all those we interact with through open communication, inclusion and passion for our mission.

Service Providing Michigan children with special needs and their families with accessibility to the best possible programs and services.

contact us

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we are what
special needs

detroit institute for children 

who we are

We were founded in 1920 by a group of young women in response to the effects of childhood polio and tuberculosis. As medical care advanced, our services expanded to include best practices and state of the art equipment in the complex field of childhood disabilities. The agency is renowned in Detroit and surrounding communities for providing the best available evidence-based pediatric care and programs for children with special needs.

Children with special needs and their families are our only focus. By providing the highest quality therapeutic programs and services to children, and education to families, professionals and communities, we empower children to reach their greatest potential so that they become thriving members of our communities.



We provide customized services based on age and abilities. We specialize in early intervention services and programs for children from birth to 5 years.

what we do

We offer a comprehensive array of services and programs that provide a continuum of care for school-aged children.

We specialize in providing care for children with conditions including learning disabilities, autism spectrum disorders, developmental and behavioral disorders, genetic syndromes, neuromuscular disorders and cerebral palsy.

We have proven expertise in providing services in public and charter schools, Head Start, early intervention programs and pediatric care centers. We provide services exclusively in the State of Michigan.



Our services include

Speech and Language Pathology
Occupational Therapy
Physical Therapy
Social Work
Special Education Consulting
Psychology
Trauma Training
Crisis Intervention

how we do it

We emphasize treating the whole child, not just the disability. We partner with all those who touch the life of each child including parents, guardians, family and caregivers, teachers and school administrators, medical and other professionals to maximize the child's potential for learning and independent functioning, through:

- Validated assessments and evaluation tools
- Use of assistive technology such as iPads
- **SLIDE** (Summer Learning Program)
- Expert, licensed professionals using the most current care practices and dedicated to the success of each child
- Parent and professional workshops to educate and strengthen the partnership between everyone involved in the care and education of children with special needs

