

The Dreamery provides innovative, high-quality childcare and educational programs that support vulnerable children using trauma-informed racial and gender-justice curriculum. The Dreamery is committed to offering affordable services so that families in our community can work outside the home knowing their children are safe, learning, and having fun.



Interested in Enrolling?



Fill out the intake form to be added to the waitlist!
<https://qrco.de/DreameryForm>



Questions? Contact the Resource Hub!

The Resource Hub manages all program intake and can also connect families to resources within the agency as well as other local community resources.



(269) 345-5595 ext. 356



resourcehub@ywcakalamazoo.org



The Dreamery at Downtown
353 E. Michigan Avenue
Kalamazoo, MI 49007

The Dreamery at Edison
1155 Portage Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49001



Affordable High-Quality Childcare





Quality Childcare at Affordable Prices.

Early education and childcare services are integral to the mission of YWCA Kalamazoo. The importance of quality early childcare is widely recognized to have a profound impact on a child's ability to grow, learn and thrive. We believe that every child has a right to have access to these services, especially the most vulnerable children.

- Two locations: The Dreamery at Downtown and The Dreamery at Edison
- Open to all families in the community
- "Creative Curriculum" is used to guide lessons and activities
- Behavioral Health Referral Services
- Transportation Services
- Family Advocacy
- Tuition Assistance Program for qualifying families
- Credentialed staff - Most of our lead teachers hold a CDA (Child Development Associate) credential. Many of our other staff are currently training to earn their CDA and/or hold an associates degree or higher in education or a related field.

The Dreamery at Downtown

In November 1985, the YWCA Children's Center was developed to meet the community's pressing need for quality, affordable childcare. Now known as The Dreamery at Downtown, the site's programs collectively serve approximately 75 children each day.

- Full-time Care
6:30am - 6:00pm, Monday through Friday.
Ages 0-3 years
- Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP)
Ages 3-4 years
Serves 16 children prior to their entry into Kindergarten
- Kalamazoo County Ready 3s/4s (KC Ready4s)
Ages 3-4 years
Tuition assistance through county program subsidy

The Dreamery at Edison

Designed to be neighborhood-based, The Dreamery at Edison opened in 2021 to fill a gap in local childcare options by offering 24-hour services. The site serves nearly 100 children each week.

- Full-time Care
6:30am-6:00pm, Monday through Friday
Ages 0-3 years
- 24-hour Emergency Drop-in Care
5:00am Monday through 7:00pm Saturday
5:00am - 3:00pm Sunday
Ages 0-12 years
- Mixed-age classrooms
- Staff representing many cultures who speak multiple languages

F2ECE

Farm to Early Care and Education (F2ECE) is a national network that brings local food sourcing, school gardens, and food and agriculture education into all types of ECE settings to improve the quality of education and support lifelong health and wellness for children, families, and caregivers.

How does The Dreamery use F2ECE?

- We grow food, flowers, and herbs in the garden
- We buy and serve locally-grown food
- We learn about food, farms, and healthy eating habits

The Dreamery's F2ECE Vision Statement

- All children and families in the YWCA childcare community have equitable opportunities to hold power in our food system and to grow, explore, and eat healthy local foods.



Are You Looking for a Career Working with Children?



EDISON
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION
CAREER PATHWAY

The ECE Career Pathway is a system for ensuring equity in the credentialing process and work environment of the participant. The Edison program provides a sustainable career pathway that increases the availability of qualified Early Learning Professionals (ELPs) in Kalamazoo. The program's three main components are:

- Career Pathway and Program Development
- Participant Success
- Neighborhood Capacity

Learn More!

