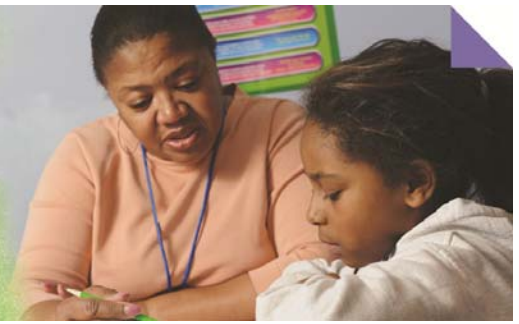


# FACT SHEET



## What We Do:

Mercy Education Project (MEP) provides academic services, life skills development and cultural enrichment to help at-risk girls and women improve the quality of their lives.

## Founded:

1992 by the Sisters of Mercy of Detroit

## Population Served:

A racially, ethnically and religiously diverse population of over 300 women and girls (grades 1- 12) annually

**Location:** Southwest Detroit

## Mercy Education Project: A History of Responding to Needs

1992—Began Tutoring and summer program for elementary-school girls

1993—Initiated women's GED classes

1998—Added adult basic education classes based on identified need

2001—Added adult literacy based on identified need

2003—MEP named the 2003 Empowerment Zone Demonstration Project

2004—Initiated financial literacy and career planning programs

2005—Initiated **Opportunity Knocking** health care jobs program

2006—Expanded career development, training options, new curriculum for girls' tutoring

2009—Initiated the **Emerging Leaders** college and career exploration program for middle-school girls in the summer

2010—MEP named a **Champion in Action** by Charter One and Channel 7

Began **Open Doors** program for women in transition

Added academic support services for high school girls

2011—MEP named a **Reading Works** provider; Launched *A Thousand Women Strong Initiative*

2012—MEP celebrated twenty years of educational achievement

2013—Added Spring Break College Camp for high school juniors

Received the 2013 **Crain's Best-Managed Nonprofit Award**

2014—Established a permanent endowment to ensure long-term viability of MEP programs

Integrated computer literacy training into adult education

2015—Began all-girls robotics program and increased integrated career readiness programming

2016—Launched a summer job shadowing and transitions program for high school juniors and seniors

## Mercy Education Project: A History of Success

- More than 90% of the women who complete our program pass the GED
- On average, 80% of our GED graduates have gone on to college, employment or job training
- Girls gain an average of 1.5 grade levels through one-to-one tutoring in one year