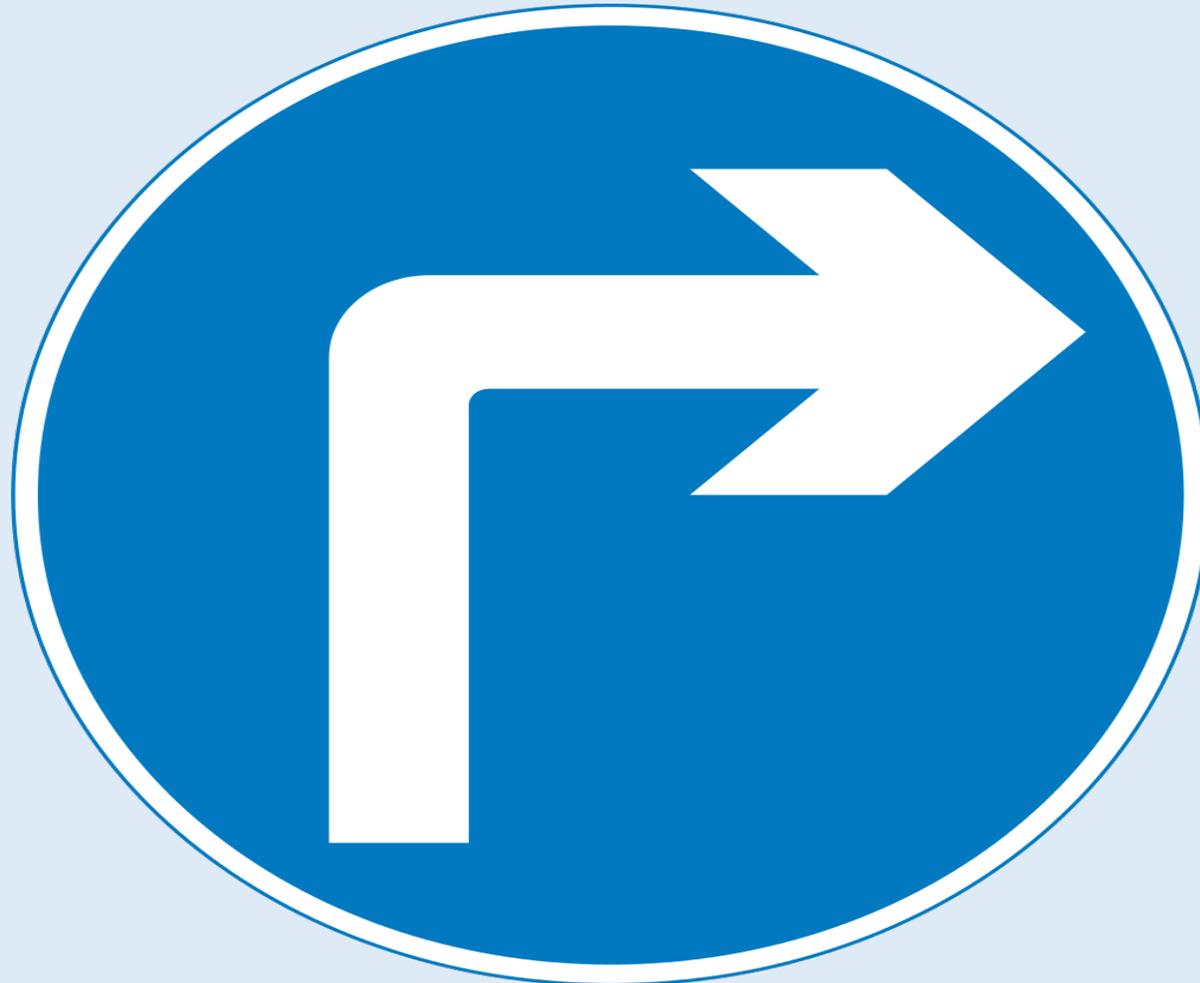


Changing the Direction of Child Welfare Practice



The Children's Bureau (CB) is committed to:

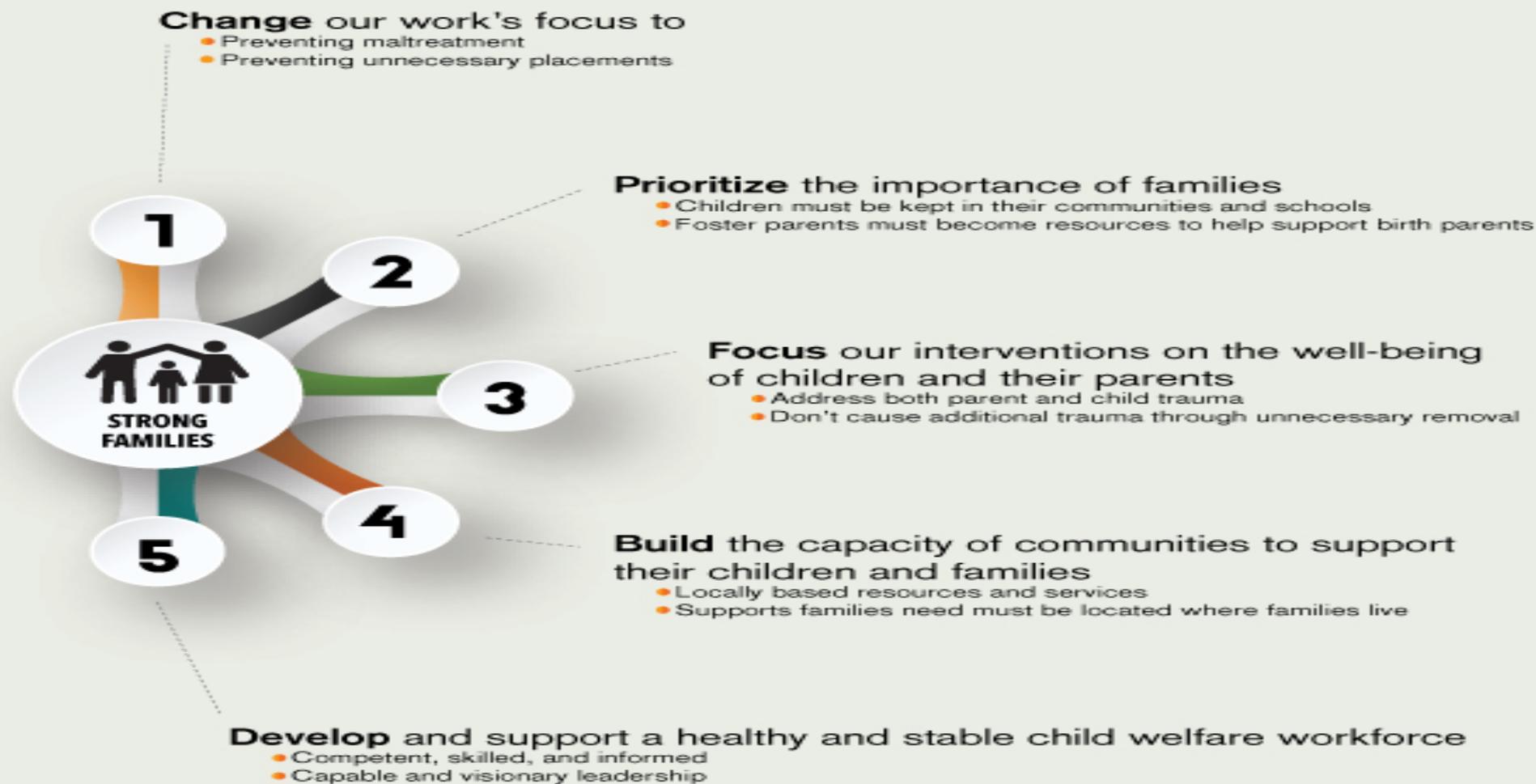
- refocusing our nation's child welfare system on strengthening families' capacity to care for their own children;
- reducing the numbers of children traumatized by abuse and neglect; and
- breaking the inter-generational cycle of trauma and maltreatment.





STRATEGIES TO STRENGTHEN FAMILIES:

THE CHILDREN'S BUREAU'S VISION FOR CHANGING NATIONAL CHILD WELFARE PRACTICE



Family First Opportunities:

- to begin to break persistent inter-generational cycles of maltreatment and family difficulty
- to envision a vastly improved way of serving children and families, one that focuses on strengthening their protective and nurturing capacities instead of separating them;
- Through the kinship navigator program, the opportunity to focus on supporting relatives as placement resources for children in foster care,
- to use federal funding to reduce the trauma that children and parents experience when a foster care placement occurs;

Family First Opportunities - continued

- to use federal funds to provide substance abuse treatment services that lead families into the child welfare system and break down barriers to parents seeking SA Treatment
- to develop a vision and outcomes that are shared across child and family serving programs and agencies;
- to shape the foster care system around family-based care rather than group care except when absolutely needed and appropriate for a child; and
- to help service providers to diversify and develop a broader range of services designed to strengthen families and reduce trauma.

Child Welfare Workforce



Competent
Skilled
Informed
Visionary