

*Catholic Community Services*  
*Family Preservation*  
*Guiding Principles*

1. Safety of the child, family members and community/tribe is paramount and is assessed continuously. Safety/Crisis planning is proactive and responsive.
2. Services are flexible and responsive to the unique needs of each child and family.
3. Services are family-driven and clearly establish their full partnership in all phases of the intervention.
4. Services are designed to enhance trust and respect.
5. Services are provided in the most normative and least restrictive setting possible.
6. Services are child and family oriented and designed to promote family preservation or reunification.
7. Interventions are strengths-based, focusing on competence instead of weaknesses.
8. Services are comprehensive and collaborative, addressing the child's and family's strengths, needs and adaptability across major life areas while emphasizing the involvement/participation of natural supports within the community.
9. Services are unconditional – we never give up!
10. Services promote lasting individual and family self-sufficiency. Progress can be sustained after services have ended.
11. Community support and ownership are essential. Involvement of community systems and supports, as defined by the child and family, are the focus of individualized planning.
12. Services are both culturally relevant and culturally specific, integrating the child and family within their own natural community/tribe.