

# Getting Started with Prevention Services

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## Target the key child maltreatment drivers

-  Poverty
-  Poor housing
-  Mental health
-  Addictions
-  Domestic violence

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## Design culturally based services for:

-  Neglect
-  Sexual abuse/exploitation
-  Physical abuse
-  Domestic violence

**Neglect is the most frequent maltreatment type for First Nations children**

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## Research

- a Consult Elders, youth, and children
- b Consult First Nations child and family experts with significant experience
- c Consult journal articles and child maltreatment toolkits from credible sources, such as:
  - i [The First Nations Information Governance Centre](https://fnigc.ca)<sup>1</sup>
  - ii [The Caring Society Research Database](https://www.caring-society.com/research)<sup>2</sup>
  - iii [The Canadian Child Welfare Research Portal](https://www.cwrp.ca)<sup>3</sup>
  - iv [The First Nations Component of the Canadian Incidence Study of Reported Child Abuse and Neglect](https://www.cwrp.ca/first-nations-incidence-study)<sup>4</sup>

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## Meet people where they are at

- a On or off reserve
- b Honour child/youth development, identities, and needs
- c Honour different family needs
- d Family readiness, such as:
  - i Voluntary services
  - ii Services for high-risk families not willing to participate in programs
  - iii Services to address family risks with the aim of returning children in care safely home

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## Measure healthy family outcomes versus children in care

There are lots of artificial ways to reduce children in care without improving child wellbeing (e.g., transferring children in care to other service providers, returning children to families before they are set up for success). Use the [Measuring to Thrive outcomes](#)<sup>5</sup> including those targeting the drivers of child maltreatment and use the free software to customize outcomes for your community.

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## Coordination is key!

Prevention and Protection are not two different things; they are an interrelated set of services and should be coordinated to meet the needs of families.



**First Nations Child & Family Caring Society of Canada**  
[fncaring-society.com](https://www.fncaring-society.com)

<sup>1</sup> <https://fnigc.ca>  
<sup>2</sup> <https://fncaring-society.com/publications/search>  
<sup>3</sup> <https://cwrp.ca>  
<sup>4</sup> <https://cwrp.ca/first-nations-incidence-study>  
<sup>5</sup> <https://www.ifsd.ca/en/fncfs>