### ABOUT OUR AGENCY

Child and Family Services of Western Manitoba is a private, non-profit, community-based charitable Agency, led by a community-elected and community-represented Board of Directors.

The goals of our Agency are to:



Strengthen and support families



Protect children from neglect, abuse and exploitation



Ensure children in our care are nurtured and supported in ways that promote their well-being



Work in partnership with the community



Continue to lead in the advancement of health and well-being of children and families of Western Manitoba

We accomplish these goals by offering family strengthening programs and preventative resources to Westman communities.

# FOR MORE INFORMATION:



800 McTavish Avenue Brandon, MB R7A 7L4



204-726-6030 or toll free 1-800-483-8980



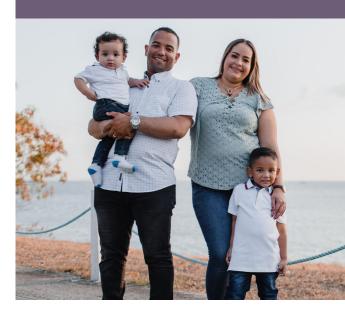
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CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES
OF WESTERN MANITOBA



## CLIENT INFORMATION

## Protecting Children & Strengthening Families

We have a legal duty to respond to concerns about child abuse and neglect. Our staff have been trained to help families and communities develop plans and make decisions to keep children safe.

When working with families, our goals are to:



Build strength and safety around families while keeping children in their homes



When this is not possible, our priority is to safely care for children and reunify children with their families of origin



If reunification is not possible, we support the development of permanency and lifelong connections for children and youth

#### Involvement

In the event that an investigation is necessary, a social worker will meet with members of the family and the people close to the, about safety concerns. If we determine that the child is not safe, we may refer the family to ongoing services.

#### **Ongoing Services**

We work with each family to create a plan for their child's safety. We also help families build networks of support they can call on for help. When a case is open, a social worker partners with the family to identify extended family and community members who can become part of the child and family's network of safety and support. This network strengthens and prepares the family to help their children remain safe and to thrive.



#### When Children Cannot Safely Live at Home

We work with the child's family to identify people who can care for the child. We try to keep the child in a familiar setting to reduce the trauma they experience. The child may live with a relative, family friend, or licensed resource home within the community until they can return home.

#### Right of Appeal

As a client of Child and Family Services, you have the right to appeal decisions that are made concerning you and your family.

- If your concern is about the kind of service you are receiving, you are encouraged to discuss the matter with your social worker. If this is unsatisfactory or not possible, you may contact the worker's supervisor. Either the worker or our receptionist will be pleased to tell you which supervisor to contact. Most situations can be sorted out this way.
- If the matter can't be settled this way, you can discuss your concerns with the Director of Programs and subsequently, the Chief Executive Officer
- If your concern is about a matter that is before the court, you have the right to consult a lawyer.