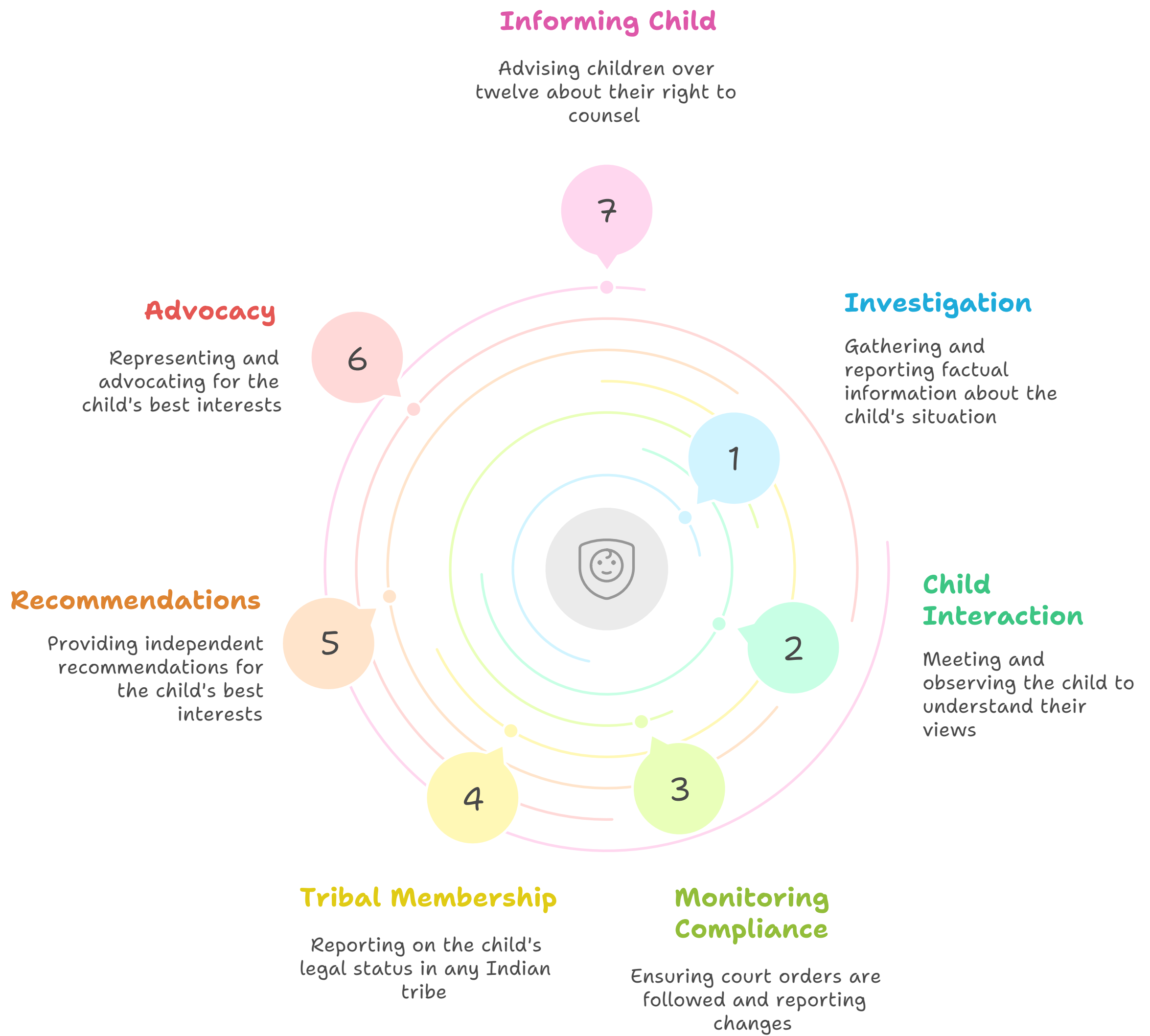




# Advocacy Training 2

## Guardian Ad Litem Responsibilities

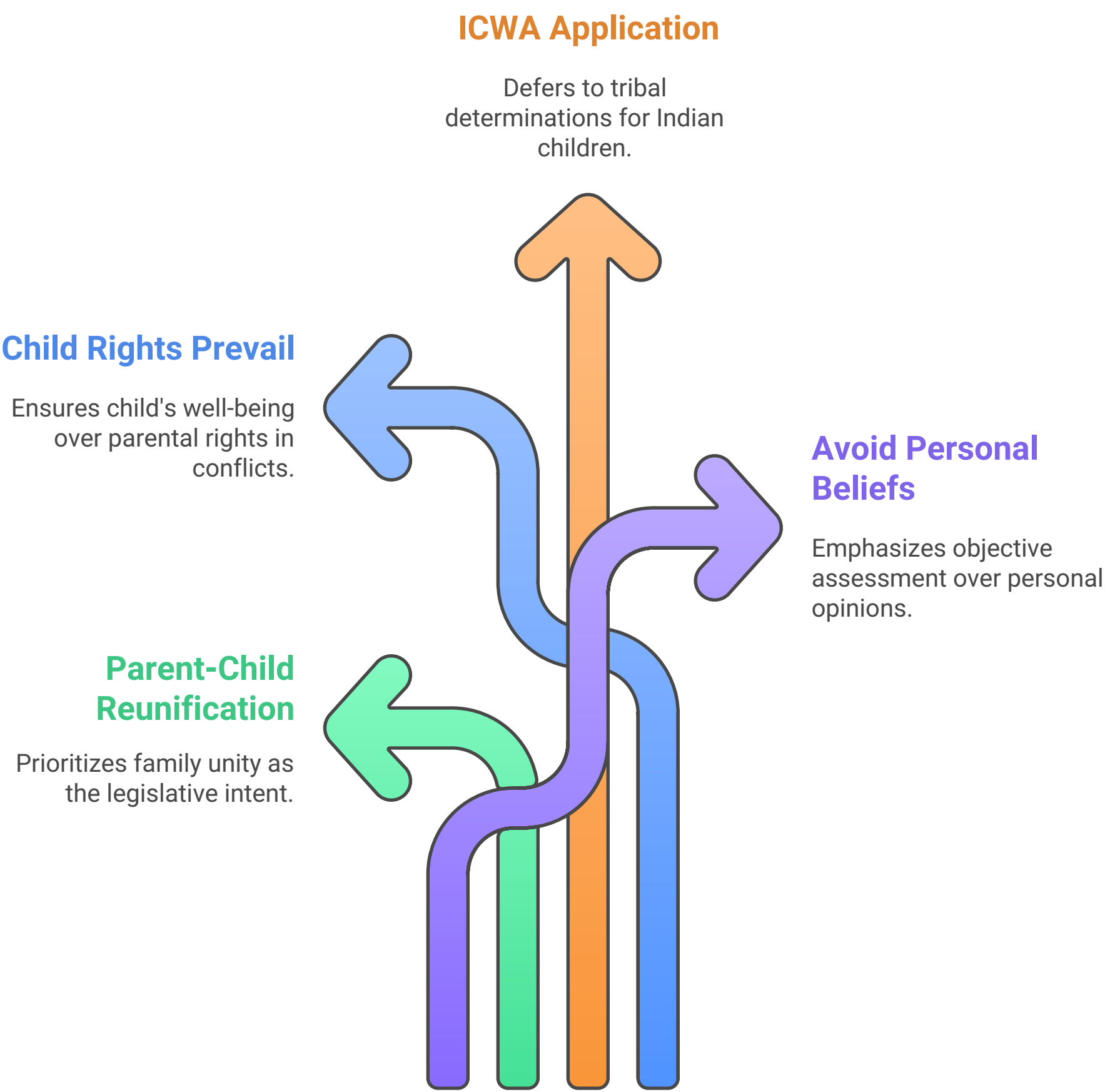


# Advocacy Responsibilities Sequence

1	<div>Visit Child Every 30 Days</div> <div>Regular visits to ensure child's well-being</div>
2	<div>Attend 12 Hours of Annual Training</div> <div>Continuous learning to enhance advocacy skills</div>
3	<div>Agree to Annual Background Check Update</div> <div>Ensuring safety and compliance</div>
4	<div>Actively Advocate for Children</div> <div>Representing children's interests in all matters</div>
5	<div>Provide Written Report Before Court Hearing</div> <div>Documenting advocacy efforts for court</div>
6	<div>Maintain Communication with Supervisor</div> <div>Keeping supervisor informed of progress</div>
7	<div>Notify Coordinator of Inability to Perform Duties</div> <div>Ensuring smooth transition of responsibilities</div>

Understanding the  
“Best Interests” Principle

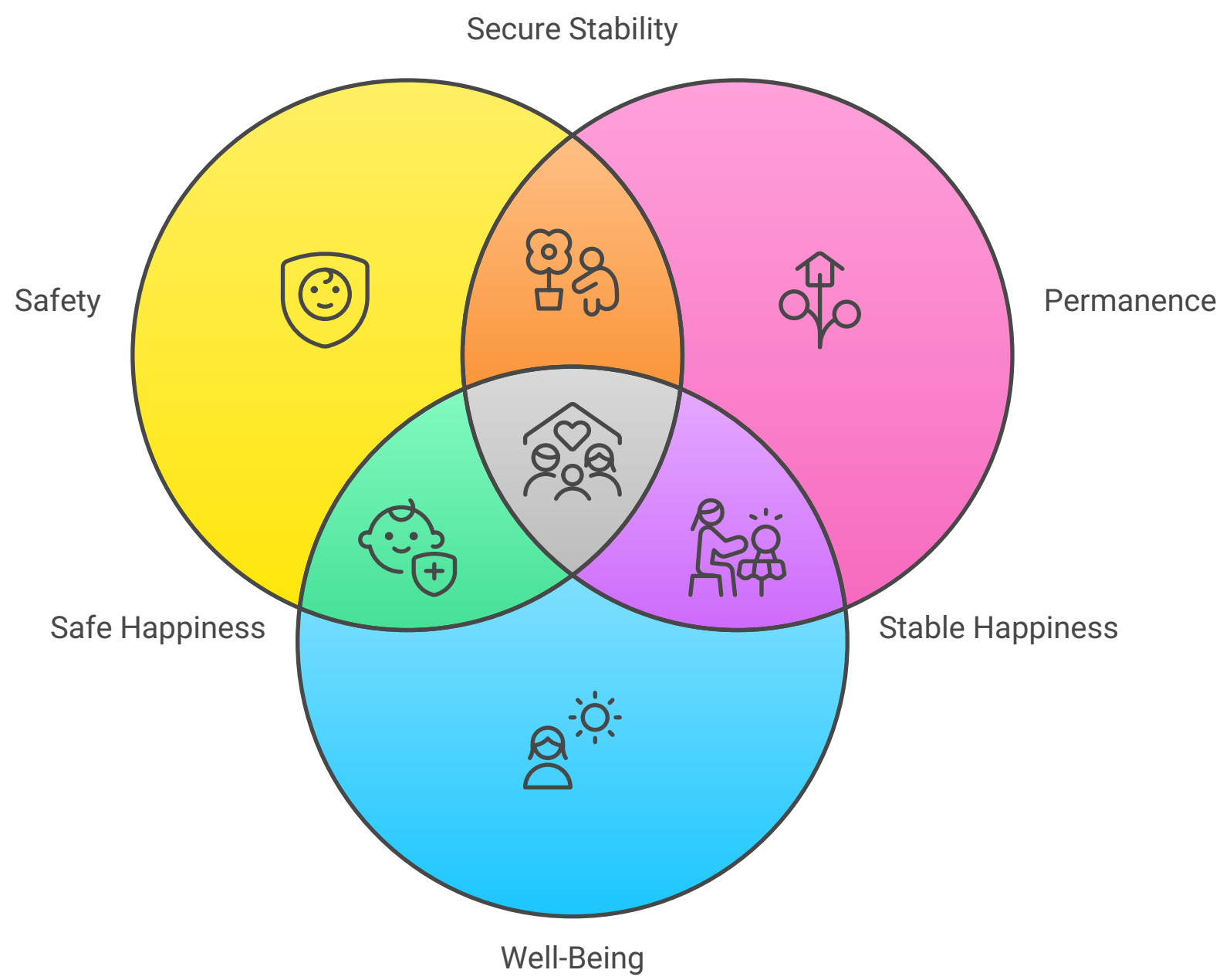
# How to determine a child's best interests?



There are three key components to best interests:

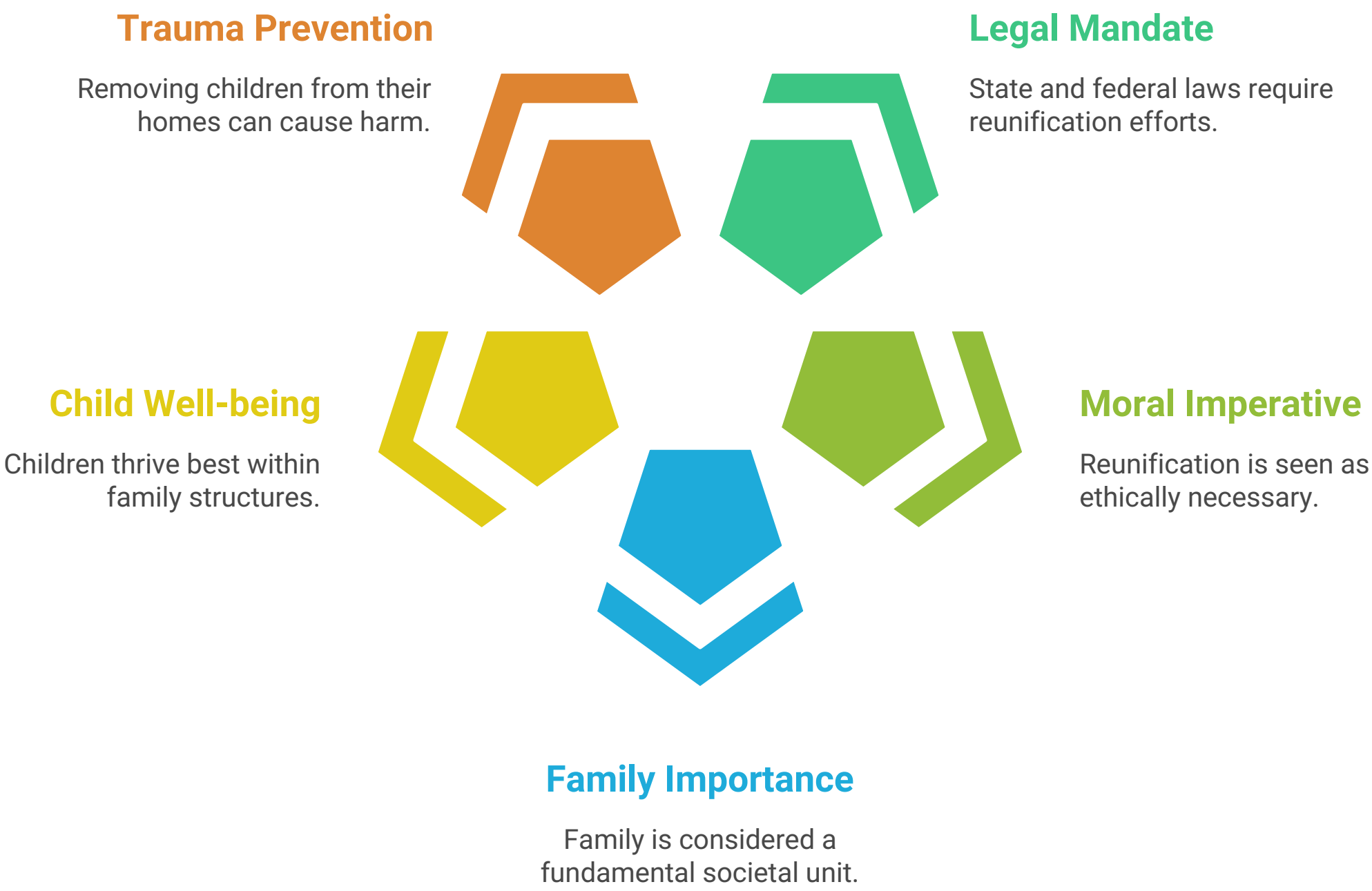
- Safety
- Permanence
- Well-Being

## The Foundation of Best Interests



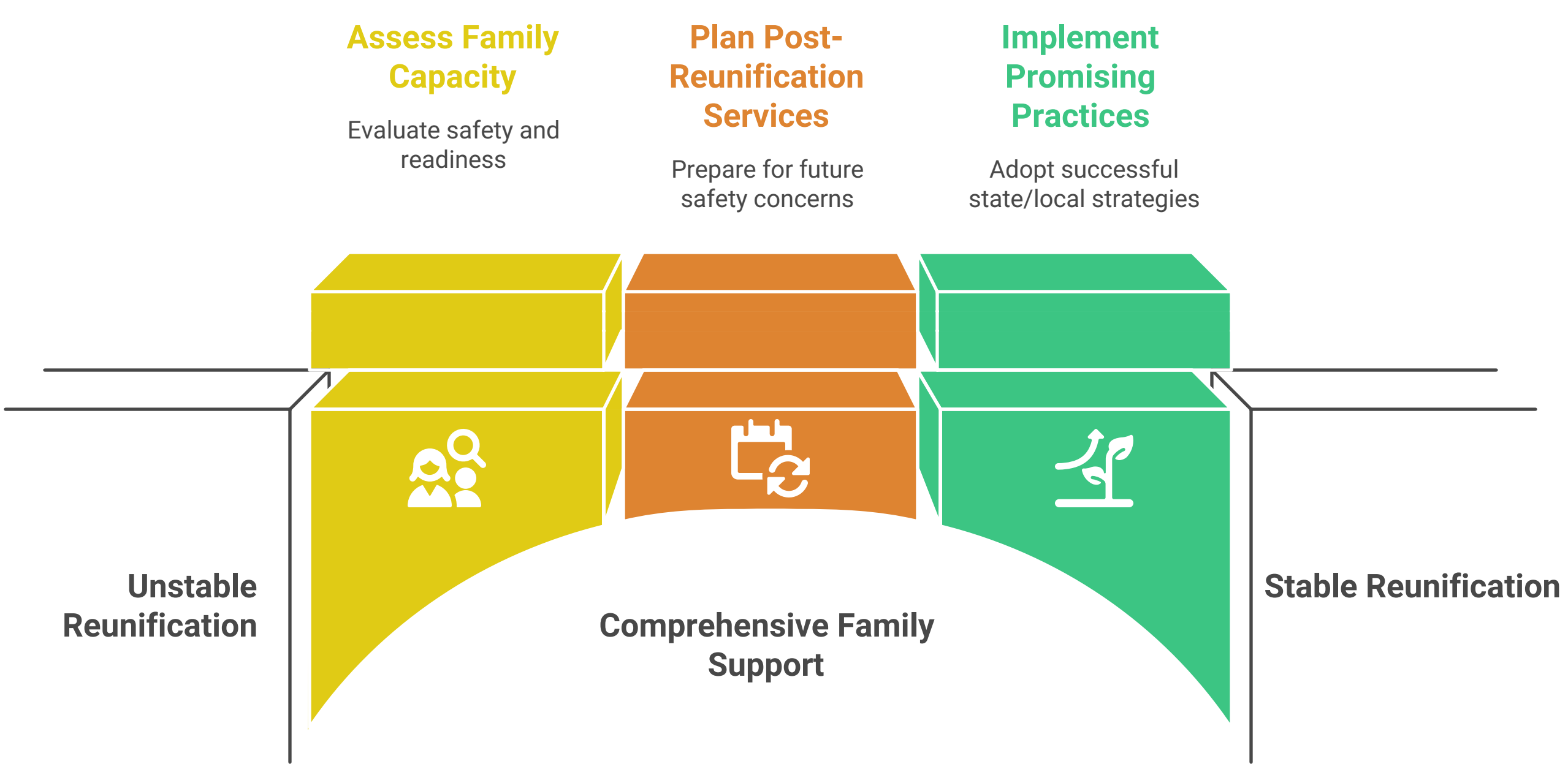
Reunification is the goal\*

# Foundations of Reunification



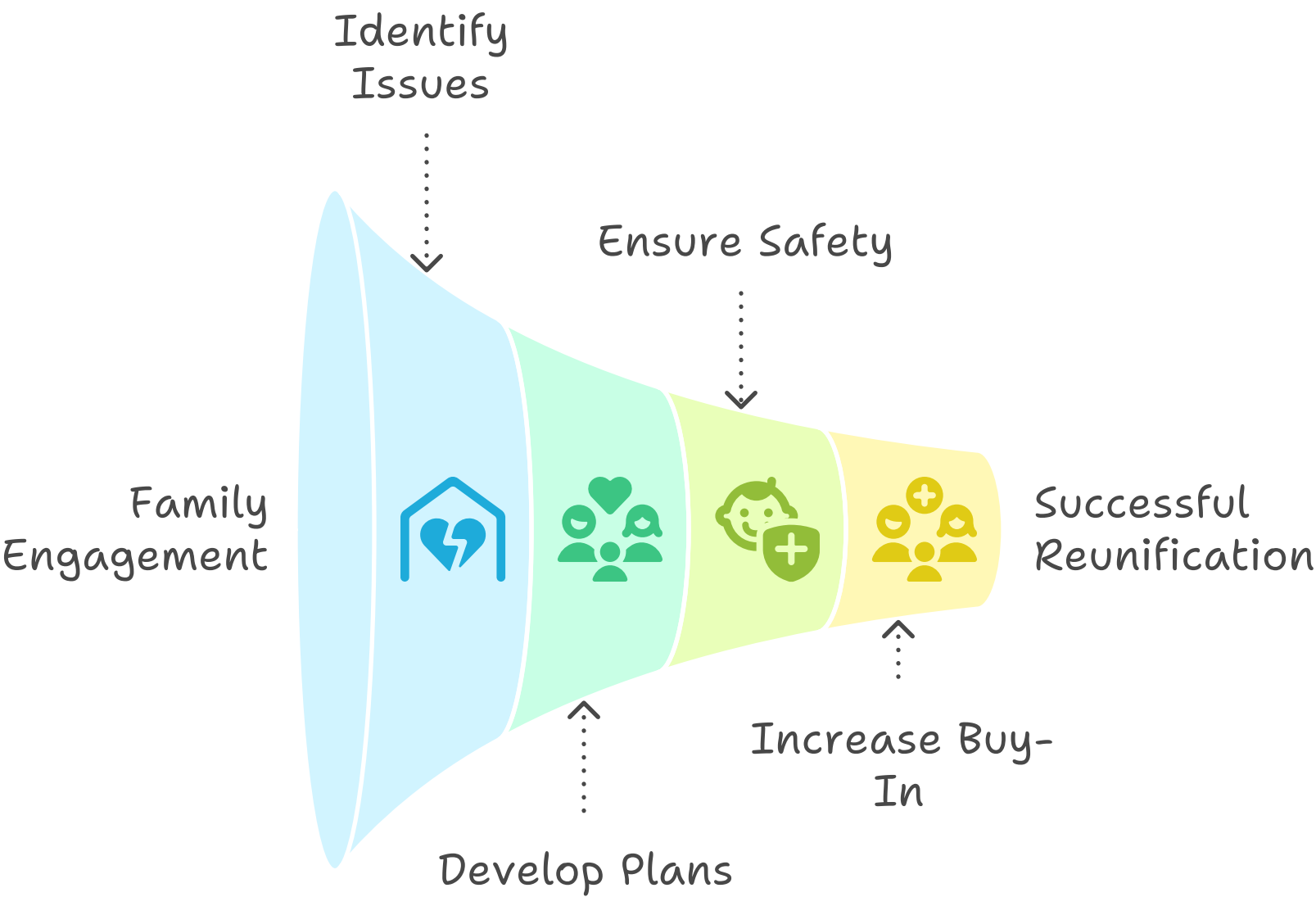
Safe and stable reunification

# Achieving Safe and Stable Reunification



Family group decision-making (FGDM) is an umbrella term for various processes [e.g., family team meetings, team decision-making] in which families are brought together with agency personnel and other interested parties to be an active participant in identifying underlying issues and make decisions about and develop plans for the care of their children and for needed services.

# Family Engagement in Child Care Planning



Intensive reunification services are short term, intensive, family centered, and are intended to reunite families whose children would otherwise likely remain in out-of-home care for more than 6 months [National Family Preservation Network, 2003].

## Steps to Family Reunification

