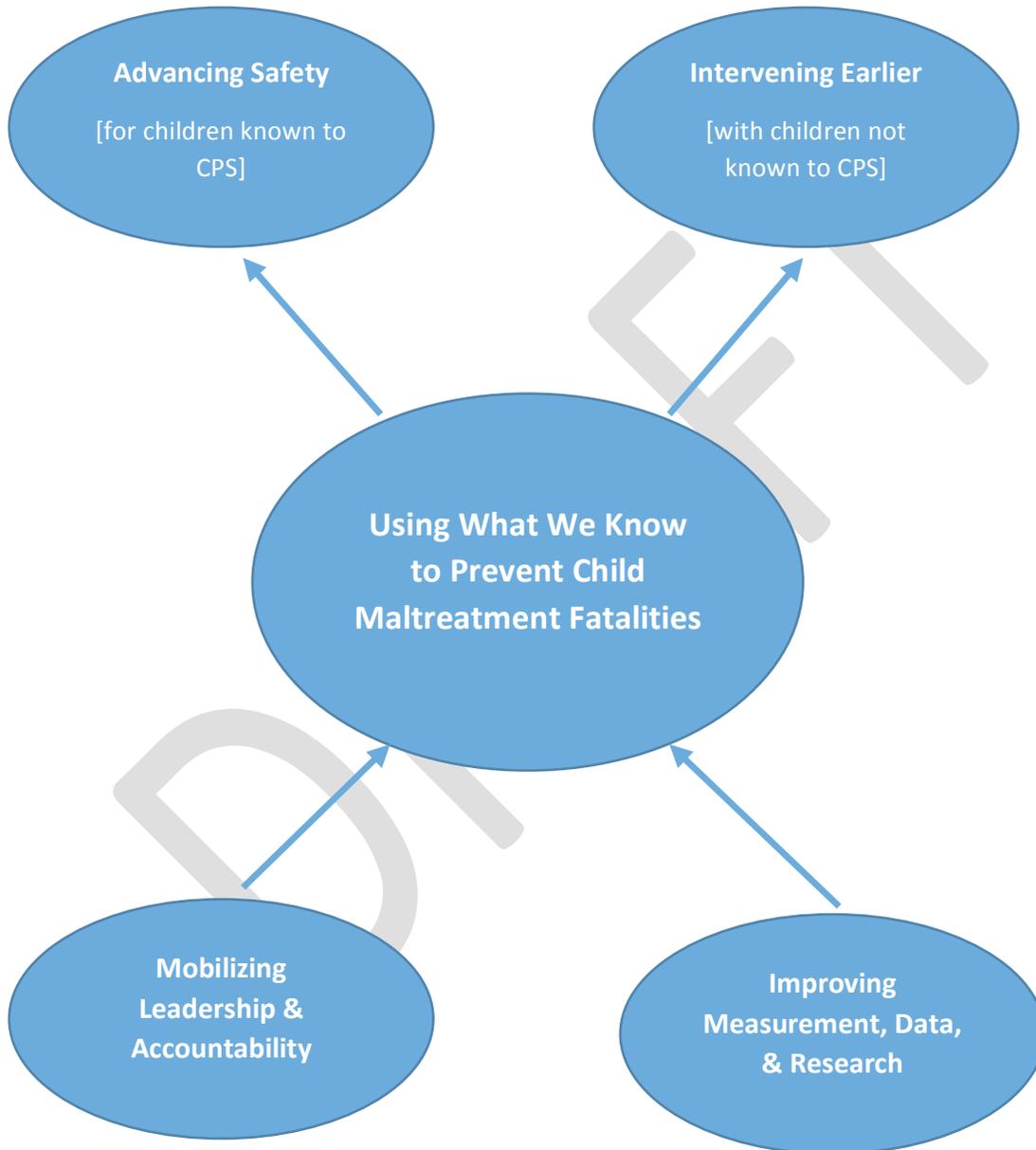




## A National Strategy to Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect Fatalities





## **At the Center of the National Strategy: *Using What We Know to Prevent Child Maltreatment Fatalities***

We must enhance our capacity to analyze child welfare data and employ resources based on the findings. Components may include:

- Predictive analytics
- Learning from other industries (health care, aviation, etc.)
- Data integration and information sharing across systems
- Safety culture

These new methods of using what we know will be applied in two areas, both of which are critical to saving children's lives:

- ***Advancing Safety*** emphasizes strategies to improve our ability to protect the lives of children whose families come in contact with the CPS agency.  
Potential recommendations may include:
  - Evidence-based safety assessment methods (including a focus on threat of harm)
  - Priority responses for children most at risk
  - Evidence-based interventions
  - Multidisciplinary team responses and reviews
- ***Intervening Earlier*** focuses on upstream prevention strategies to protect children not known (or before they become known) to the CPS agency.  
Potential recommendations may include:
  - Identifying and addressing risk earlier, before children come to the attention of the child welfare system
  - Availability of effective services in the community, before a crisis occurs
  - Dual-generation supports
  - Flexible resources

Doing this will require:

- ***Mobilizing Leadership and Accountability***, with collective responsibility, to sustain attention and concern for child abuse and neglect fatalities, drive a new approach, and shelter this effort from competing priorities.  
Potential recommendations may include:
  - Federal leadership across agencies
  - Shared accountability -- state plans that include many social service sectors
  - Attention to government-to-government relationships with Tribes as sovereign nations
  - Public-private partnerships
- ***Improving Measurement, Data, and Research*** to create a stronger knowledge base.  
Potential recommendations may include:



- Standard definition and classification system
- More accurate, reliable measurement system
- Population-based surveillance system
- Improved systems of child death investigation
- Adequate data sets and funding availability for necessary research

## OUTLINE

The outline for the final report will follow from the structure of the national strategy. For example:

- Introduction: Illustrates the promise of approaches (on a smaller scale) that have focused on more effectively analyzing data and deploying resources based on the findings.
- Chapter 1: The importance of mobilizing **leadership/accountability** (Chapters 1-7 each include findings and associated recommendations.)
- Chapter 2: The need to improve **measurement, data, and research**
- Chapter 3: How other industries **use what they know** to save lives and how/where this approach is currently being applied in child welfare
- Chapter 4: How this can be applied to **advancing safety** practice in CPS agencies
- Chapter 5: How this can be applied to **intervening earlier** with families and children who are not (yet) known to the child welfare system
- Chapter 6: Preventing Child Maltreatment Fatalities in American Indian/Alaska Native Communities
- Chapter 7: Other Special Populations (disproportionality, military, children of youth in the foster care system, other?)
- Chapter 8: Implementation/Next Steps
- Appendices

We will include stories from select communities to illustrate key concepts throughout. Proposed stories include Wichita, Salt River, and Hillsborough County.