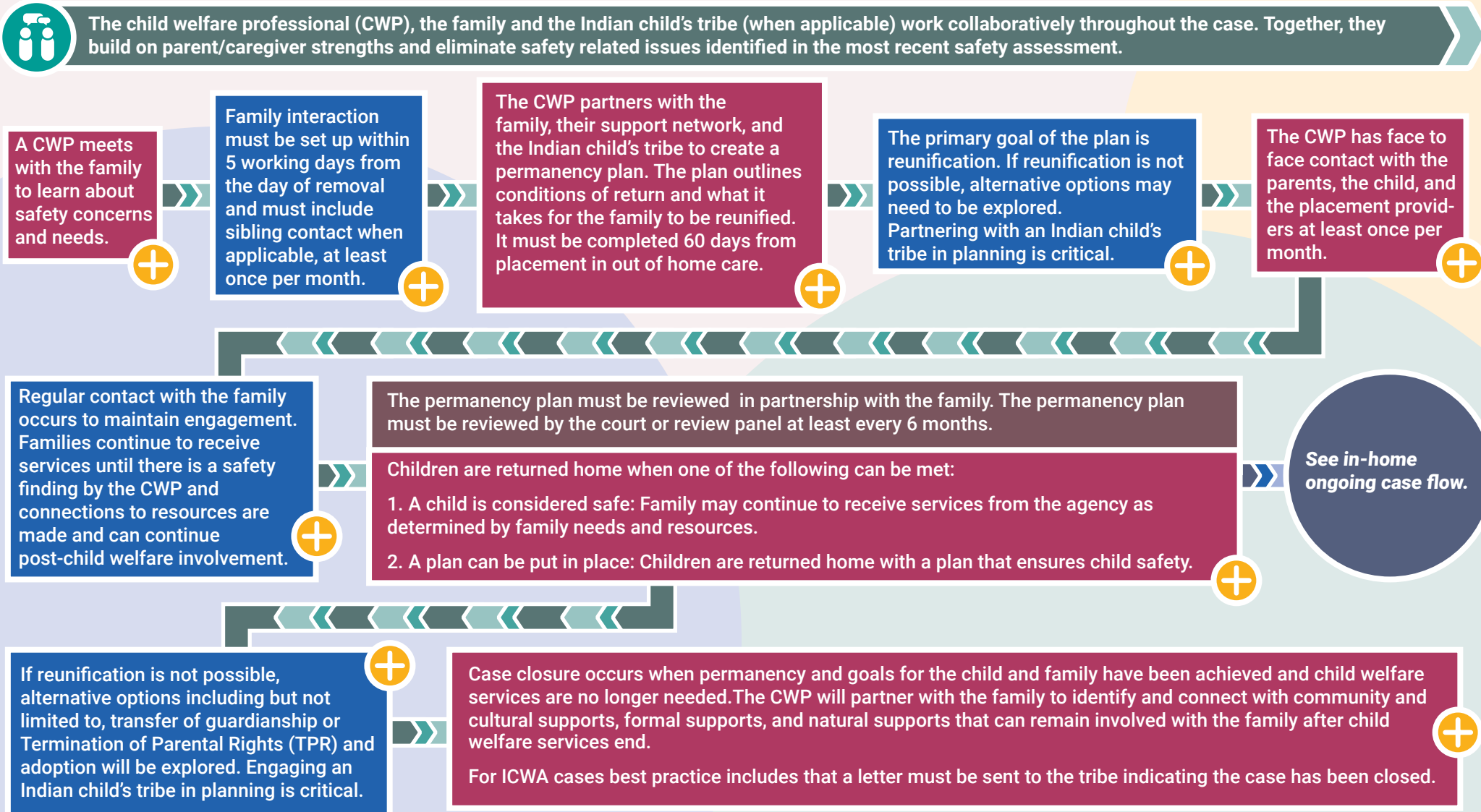


Wisconsin's Child Welfare Process Explained: Ongoing (Out of Home)

Wisconsin's child welfare system is divided into three stages - access, initial assessment, and ongoing. The ongoing stage is where services are provided based on the initial assessment and conversations with the family. A subset of cases require a child to be removed from their family home. In these circumstances, children being able to return home safely, is a priority. This is accomplished by supporting children in family settings with those who know and love them and maintaining connection to a child's tribe when identified. The below infographic highlights the case flow for a child in out-of-home care in the child welfare system.



The Department of Children and Families is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. If you have a disability and need to access services, receive information in an alternate format, or need information translated to another language, please call the Division of Safety and Permanence at (608)266-8787. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind or speech disabled can use the free Wisconsin Relay Service (WRS) – 711 to contact the department.

Tribal child welfare agencies may have a different process that is guided by tribal law or code. Additionally, county child welfare agencies must follow [policy and/or guidance](#) related to tribal families, which includes collaboration with the Indian child's tribe.