

NWT CORE PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES FINAL TEXT

Social Housing

What is Social Housing?

Social housing refers to home ownership and rental programs that subsidize the purchase, construction, renovation or rental of residential housing for persons in need of housing assistance.

Principles

- **People in need of social housing should have access to adequate, suitable and affordable homes in the community in which they reside.**
- **Social housing assistance should be provided to those people in greatest need.**
- **Social housing clients can expect to be treated with dignity and respect.**

Objectives

- **Establish criteria for determining social housing assistance eligibility.**
- **Establish guidelines concerning conflicts of interest, the protection of social housing clients' privacy and the confidentiality of their personal information.**
- **Establish a process for social housing clients to appeal administrative decisions regarding social housing assistance.**

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Income Assistance

What is Income Assistance?

Income assistance refers to financial and other types of assistance provided to individuals and families in need.

Principles

- **People in need of, or receiving, income assistance shall be treated in a fair and impartial manner.**
- **People in need of income assistance shall have the ability to access income assistance in the community in which they reside.**
- **Income assistance clients can expect to be treated with dignity and respect.**

Objectives

- **Establish criteria for income assistance eligibility that considers, at a minimum, the factors of family size, family income and cost of living.**
- **Establish guidelines concerning conflicts of interest, the protection of income assistance clients' privacy and the confidentiality of their personal information.**
- **Establish a process for income assistance clients to appeal administrative decisions regarding income assistance.**

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Child and Family Services

What is Child and Family Services?

Child and family services refers to the protection of children from, and any threat of, abuse, harm or neglect, and also refers to support services to promote the well being of children and families.

Principles

- **Children are entitled to protection from abuse, harm or neglect.**
- **A person who suspects that a child has been abused, harmed or neglected, or suspects that a child is at substantial risk of abuse, harm or neglect, has a duty to report this to the appropriate authorities.**
- **Parents or guardians are responsible for caring, supervising and protecting their children, and providing for their basic needs.**
- **Decisions concerning children must be made in the best interests of the child.**
- **Decisions concerning the protection of children must be made in a timely manner.**
- **Persons who receive child and family services are entitled to be informed of their rights.**
- **Persons who receive child and family services are entitled to be informed of their rights.**
- **Where possible, children and families should be involved in making decisions that affect them.**
- **The community has a role in supporting and promoting the best interests of children and the well being of families.**
- **Children should have a positive relationship with parents or guardians and a secure place as a family member in a stable home environment.**

Objectives

- **Establish criteria to determine if a child is in need of protection from abuse, harm or neglect, including the merits and risks of any type of intervention or non-intervention.**

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Child and Family Services continued:

- **Establish a process so that when a child is in need of protection, the decision made regarding placement of that child considers:**
 - **the child's developmental needs.**
 - **the child's cultural, linguistic, spiritual or religious upbringing.**
 - **the child's relationships by blood or through adoption.**
 - **the child's views and preferences, if they can be reasonably determined.**
- **Establish a process to appeal child protection decisions.**
- **Establish procedures to periodically review all decisions made concerning a child.**
- **Establish a system for child protection records that provides for confidentiality and access to information.**
- **Establish a process to determine when it is appropriate that a child in care can be reunited with his or her family.**