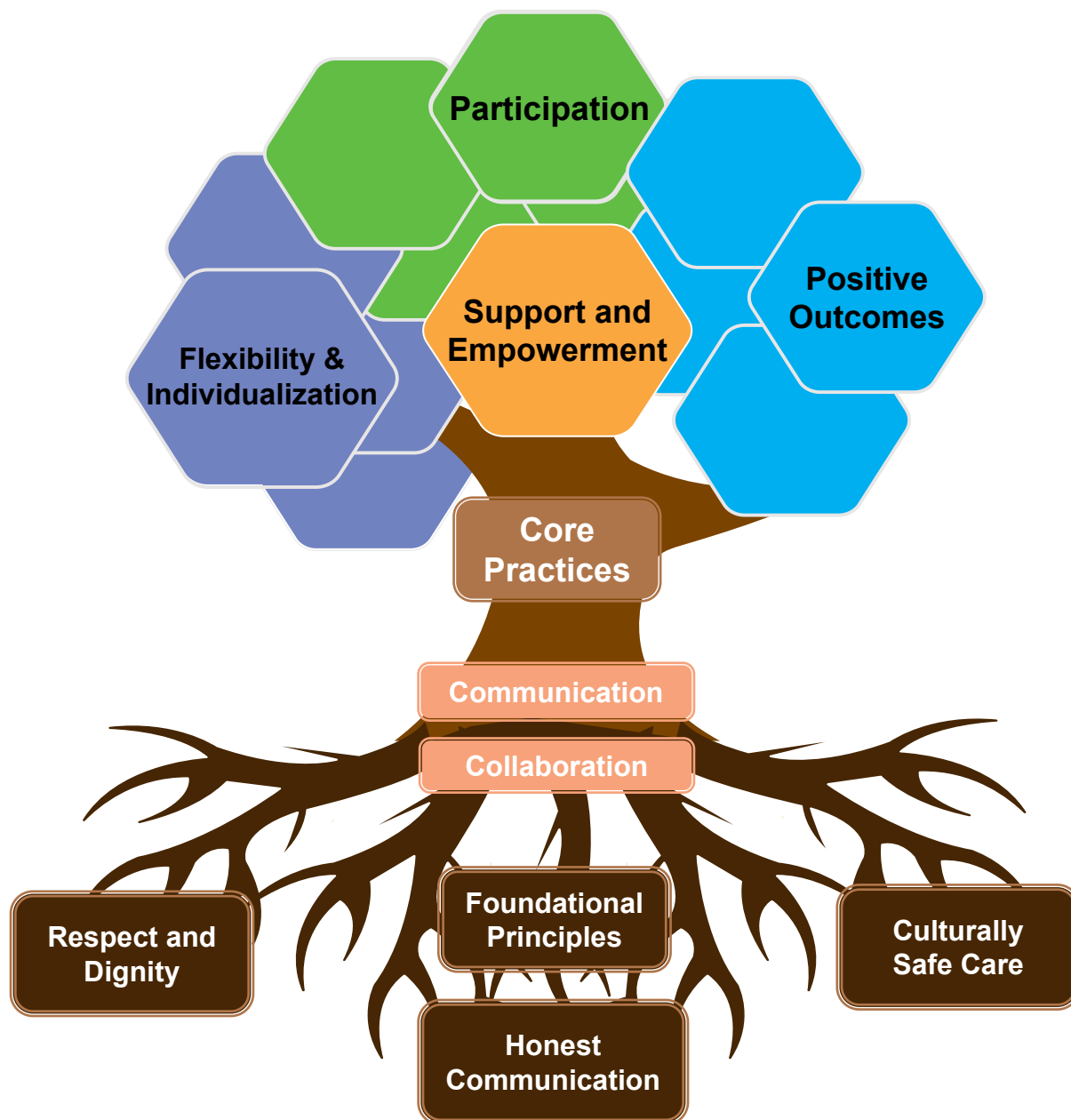




Family Centered Care - Family-centered care is an approach to health care that prioritizes the partnership between health care providers, patients, and their families. It recognizes families as integral members of the care team and emphasizes collaboration to ensure that care is respectful, inclusive, and tailored to the unique needs, values, and cultural backgrounds of each family.

Who is "Family" – Includes anyone the patient or caregivers identify as a source of support, such as biological relatives, adoptive or foster parents, legal guardians, caseworkers, extended family, close friends, or others with a significant role in the patient's life. It is important to remember that this may vary for each patient, and may change throughout their inpatient experience





The Roots – The Foundational Principles

The **roots** of the tree represent the **core principles** that ground Family-Centered Care, ensuring a **strong and unwavering foundation** for all interactions between families and healthcare providers. Just as deep, extensive roots provide stability and nourishment to a tree, these principles sustain compassionate, equitable, and effective care.

- **Respect and Dignity:** Every family brings a unique perspective, background, and set of values. Family-Centered Care recognizes and honors these differences, ensuring that families are treated with the respect they deserve and ensures that all families feel **safe, included, and empowered** in the healthcare process.
- **Honest Communication:** Trust is built on **transparency and clarity**. Families receive open, accessible, and supportive communication to help them make informed decisions.
- **Culturally Safe Care:** Care is provided in a way that acknowledges and respects diverse cultural values

The Trunk – Core Practices

The **trunk** represents the **structural strength** that connects the foundational principles (roots) to the outcomes (branches and leaves). It **supports the entire system**, ensuring a **consistent and reliable** approach to Family-Centered Care.

- **Collaboration:** Providers, including multidisciplinary team members, and families **work together as partners**, ensuring that care decisions reflect the family's priorities and insights.
- **Communication:** The **lifeline of effective care**, fostering trust and understanding between families and healthcare teams. Open, two-way dialogue ensures that families feel **heard, valued and involved**. Communication is open and ongoing among the family and multidisciplinary team members. Information is provided in a manner that is easy to understand so families can use this in decision making for their child.

Branches and Leaves – Care in Action

The **branches** extend outward, symbolizing the **adaptive, patient- and family-centered nature of care**. Just as branches grow in different directions to reach sunlight, care practices **expand and adjust** to meet the unique needs of every family.

- **Participation:** Families have the autonomy to **choose their level of involvement** in care and decision-making.
- **Flexibility & Individualization:** Care is **tailored** to align with each family's unique needs, culture, and preferences.
- **Support & Empowerment:** Families are **equipped with the knowledge, tools, and confidence** they need to navigate the healthcare system.
- **Positive Outcomes:** Strong family-provider relationships **lead to improved patient experiences, better adherence to care plans, and more successful long-term outcomes**.