



NYTD COUNCIL

What the NYTD Council Is All About:

The NYTD Council is a group of young people who have experienced foster care and want to help improve outcomes for transitioning youth. As a member, you'll learn what NYTD is all about, speak up for youth in the child welfare system, and encourage others to share their experiences through NYTD surveys. Your voice helps strengthen Independent Living (IL) programs across Pennsylvania and makes sure youth are heard.

What NYTD Council Members Do:

Advise & Share Insight

- Give feedback on how NYTD collects and reports information
- Help Pennsylvania and partner organizations understand real experiences behind the numbers

Provide Youth Voice

- Advocate for foster youth and young adults transitioning out of care
- Recommend policy change based on NYTD data

Interpret Data

- Look at NYTD reports and help identify trends
- Simplify information for youth to understand

Training & Outreach

- Help create youth-friendly resources, videos, and training materials
- Join webinars, conferences, and community events to teach others about NYTD

Working With Community Partners

- Collaborate with child welfare groups, state agencies, and federal partners to improve how data is collected and how services are delivered



Expectations of NYTD Council Members:

Be Active & Engaged

- Participate in meetings, trainings, and webinars—online or in-person
- Engage in conversations, share your thoughts, and bring your experiences to the table

Be Willing to Learn

- Familiarize yourself with how NYTD works and why the data matters
- Stay informed about foster care policies and transition-age services

Show Leadership & Professionalism

- Represent the Council and system-involved youth respectfully
- Maintain confidentiality of sensitive information and conduct all discussions responsibly

Work as a Team

- Collaborate with other youth and professionals
- Support your fellow Council members in outreach and advocacy

Give Helpful Feedback

- Review videos, reports, and training materials to ensure they are youth-friendly
- Suggest ways to make NYTD more engaging and easier to understand

By agreeing to participate in the NYTD Council, members will help shape the policies and services that affect youth currently in foster care as well as youth who have exited foster care and youth who will be in care in the future. Your voice helps make sure decisions are based on real experiences, not just numbers.