

Par. 1. **Material Transmitted and Purpose** --Transmitted with this Manual Letter is revised Service Chapter 624-10, Foster Care Services – Chafee Independent Living. PI-13-10 has been incorporated in this manual letter.

Par. 2. **Effective Date** --July 25, 2014

National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD) 624-10-110 (Revised 7/25/14 ML #3414)

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The National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD), required by the Chafee Foster Care Independence Act of 1999, will track the services and outcomes of youth transitioning from foster care. NYTD requires state child welfare agencies to collect and report data in two specific areas:

1. **Independent Living Services** – document all independent living services provided to youth by public agency custodians, Chafee IL, and Partnerships. Independent living service categories include but are not limited to mentoring, academic support, career preparation, and health education. All independent living service categories can be found in FRAME.
2. **NYTD Survey** - administer and collect survey data via a three part survey of eligible youth in foster care at age 17, then survey those youth again at ages 19 and 21.

Every three years (FFY 2011, 2014, 2017....) North Dakota will be surveying a new group of 17 year old foster care youth including adjudicated delinquent youth under the custody of DJS and Title IV-E Tribal foster care youth. NDDHS Children and Family Services will identify eligible youth from FRAME and will communicate with case managers for assistance in administering the NYTD Survey as needed.

The **voluntary nature** of the NYTD survey is important for case managers and youth to understand. Youth in foster care are not required to complete the NYTD survey, rather the state of North Dakota is required to ask the youth if he/she would like to participate. At age 17, if the youth declines to

participate, there is no penalty to the youth or to state funding. However, **North Dakota will be subject to fiscal penalty if a youth takes the first NYTD survey at age 17 and then chooses to not participate or cannot be located at age 19 and 21.** It is important that youth understand; if they choose to take the NYTD Survey at age 17 they are willing to be part of the ND NYTD Survey Group and will remain in contact with CFS until they reach age 21 and complete the three NYTD survey parts.

NDDHS Children and Family Services created and updated the NYTD Handbook to better assist professionals with procedures, data entry requirements, and an understanding of roles and tasks. **The NYTD Handbook can be found at:**

<http://www.state.nd.us/robo/projects/62410/62410.htm>