

**YOUTH TRANSITION DECISION-MAKING (YTDM) MEETING YOUTH'S DREAM PATH
FORM 470-5176
INSTRUCTIONS**

The Youth Transition Decision-Making (YTDM) Meeting Youth's Dream Path, form 470-4176, is another official document that can be used during the YTDM Meeting. The YTDM Meeting Youth's Dream Path is used to document the youth's plan completed by the YTDM Meeting facilitator, in collaboration with the youth, after engaging the youth's team during a YTDM Meeting.

Case Information. All fields in this section of the YTDM Meeting Youth's Dream Path must be completed, including:

- Youth name
- Parent or caregiver's name
- Parent, caregiver, or non-custodial parent's name
- Date of the YTDM meeting
- Date of Next YTDM meeting (if scheduled)
- Facilitator's name
- Facilitator's approval number
- Next court hearing date and time (if applicable)
- Type of hearing (if applicable)

Desired Outcomes of the Meeting. Enter the desired outcome of the meeting. Use the Dream Path as a tool for the stabilization and action planning part of the YTDM Meeting. The Dream Path includes the stabilization phase which identifies the five fostering connections domain areas that need to be addressed and stabilized in the first column.

Fostering Connections Domains. The five fostering connections areas provide a consistent format for collecting, considering, and analyzing information about the youth. This consistency ensures that functioning areas most critically impacting health, housing, education, employment, and supportive relationships. Use of the five areas creates a common, consistent language as information about the youth flows from child protective workers to ongoing workers and service providers. The five areas provide a "common lens" through which the functional strengths and underlying needs of the youth can be assessed, discussed, and used in planning and service provision.

The fostering connections domains consist of the following broad areas of functioning (each domain area has related subcategories):

- Education
- Employment
- Health
- Housing
- Supportive Relationships

Education. Things to consider under this domain include:

- Academic performance
- Graduation date
- GED or high school diploma
- Extracurricular activities

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- Job training options
- IEP
- Financial aid
- ACT/SAT/COMPASS tests

Employment. Things to consider under this domain include:

- Transportation needs
- Dressing for success
- Vocational rehabilitation
- Application and interview skills
- Maintaining employment
- Resume
- Informal support

Health. Things to consider under this domain include:

- Insurance cards (medical, dental, vision)
- Access to a physician
- Medication management
- SSI
- Physical health
- Hygiene
- Mental health
- Reproductive health

Housing. Things to consider under this domain include:

- Safe
- Affordable and stable
- After 18
- Supervised apartment living
- Preparation for adult living
- Current housing

Supportive Relationships. Things to consider under this domain include:

- Aftercare
- Healthy family connections
- Peers
- Iowa foster care youth council
- Adult services
- Permanency Pact
- Community connections
- Mentors
- Church

Complete the stabilization section of the YTDM Meeting Youth's Dream Path by working through each applicable domain category from left to right. Consider the youth's strengths and needs in

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the various fostering connections domain areas as you have discussions during the YTDM Meeting.

Column 1: Now. In this column, enter the current situation for the youth (i.e. “the now”).

Column 2: What will happen. In this column, establish a goal for each applicable fostering connections domain area where a need is identified. Needs in any domain area should be related to and discussed within the context of how the needs affect child safety, permanency, or well-being. It is critical that goals be developed in partnership with the youth. Goal statements should be strength-based and focused on achieving the outcomes essential for the youth.

Column 3: Who Will Help Me. In this column, identify the strategies, services, interventions and informal supports that may be helpful to the youth in achieving the goals. This should be done after reviewing the strengths, needs, and goals for each area.

In each fostering connections domain area where goals are identified, list the steps necessary to bring about the changes needed to accomplish the goal for that domain. The steps should clearly identify:

- If the youth is in agreement
- Who is responsible
- What they agree to do, and
- By when. (This is documented in either Column 4 or Column 5 – see below).

Column 4: 0-3 Months.

Column 5: 4-9 Months.

Dream Path Phase. Each YTDM Meeting begins with a review of the five fostering connections domain areas to determine if changes or adaptations need to be made. Once the youth has achieved stability, the longer range planning can begin. The “Dream” written in the cloud on the far right of the document is reviewed and steps are developed to reach the dream. Action plans are developed with a six to nine month time frame.

Each additional meeting of the team can look ahead further. The youth will be fully listened to and have input every step of the way. If there is disagreement, take the time to discuss the issue and resolve it before moving forward.

Each meeting covers functional strengths of the youth and a review of the previous assignments. A new Crisis Plan (Plan B) will be established each meeting as well. Completion of the YTDM Meeting process is determined by the youth and the team. It can continue informally after the youth ages out of the system, if desired.

Crisis Plan (Plan B). Identify and discuss what will be done if some part of the plan breaks down and a crisis happens. Identify the risks and any steps needed to address the risk. The steps should clearly identify the anticipated completion date when completed or if ongoing.

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Signatures and Notifications. Enter the name of invited team members, including their role, contact information, and check whether or not they attended the YTDM Meeting.

Completion/Distribution Requirements

The YTDM Meeting facilitator disseminates the completed YTDM Meeting Youth's Dream Path to the identified team members.

Location of Forms

All YTDM Meeting forms and documents can be accessed at the following website:

<http://www.iatrainingsource.org/ytdm-documents>