Ongoing Positive Youth Development MDT
Definition, Activities, and Quality Indicators
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Definition

A Positive Youth Development MDT is a Youth- and Community Advocate-driven multi-disciplinary process to address the ongoing, chronic needs of youth involved in, suspected of, or at risk of commercial sexual exploitation.

Positive Youth Development MDTs are used to develop and implement coordinated community supports focused on clear goals and positive youth development across multiple life domains (housing, education, safety, employment, family, social & community, physical health, and mental health).

Positive Youth Development MDTs occur during several regular meetings that involve representatives from multiple disciplines and, when possible, natural supports such as family and friends.

Positive Youth Development MDTs are long term and begin after engagement with the youth and preparation of the youth for the MDT process.

Positive Youth Development MDTs often involve the youth, youth's family, or youth's natural support system.

Youth are likely to have already engaged with a Community Advocate and be already working on longer-term goals.

Principles
Safe Space
Strengths-based
Collaborative
Youth Voice and Choice
Confidential within the bounds of professional role and legal or other limitations
Accountable to the plan established by the team
Quick to respond

Criteria of Success

Youth buy-in and engagement
Youth is an active partner in team meetings
A plan is established
Team members follow through on the plan
Youth makes progress towards life goals
Positive working alliance among system partners is formed/maintained

Activities	Quality Indicators
An "activity" is a concrete task that must be accomplished during the event (or beforehand as preparation).	*A "quality indicator" is a detail about the way in which an activity ought to be performed.*
Before the meeting	
Youth is prepared for MDT	• Community Advocate fully describes the purpose and structure of MDT to youth • Youth determines that they want to have an MDT • Community Advocate provides the youth with suggestions on how to participate in the meeting
Identify purpose of the meeting	• Community Advocate and youth outline the reason for the meeting • Community Advocate and youth includes the youth's strengths, needs, major goals, and desired outcomes from the meeting
Identify appropriate meeting participants	• There is a clear match between the purpose of the meeting and the role, skills, and/or knowledge of the participant(s) • The Community Advocate seeks input of appropriate people to decide who needs to be on the team (e.g. other team members, supervisor) • The youth is fully involved in determining who is on the team • The Community Advocate and youth make an effort to identify appropriate natural supports as members of the team (family members, friends, neighbors)
Engaging and inviting meeting participants	• If needed, the Community Advocate reaches out to others for help contacting and engaging potential meeting participants • For participants who are new to the MDT process, the Community Advocate clearly describes the MDT process

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	• The Community Advocate sends a reminder to invitees
Determine when, where, and how (in person, email, phone) the meeting will be held	• The Community Advocate asks meeting participants to identify the most feasible and timely method for meeting • The Community Advocate schedules the meeting and clearly communicates with invitees
At the start of the meeting	
Summarize the purpose of the meeting	• Describe the reason for the meeting, the precipitating event, the needs or problems to be addressed, and desired outcomes • The team avoids blaming/shaming language • The Community Advocate answers questions and confirms that the team understands the issue
Build on strengths	• The team reviews the youth's personal and social strengths • The team uses respectful language about each other and about the youth
Youth engagement	• The youth is provided ample time and opportunities to provide input throughout the meeting • The youth's ideas are respected and incorporated into the meeting • The team views the youth as a collaborative member of the team and avoids confrontational or coercive language or pathologizing youth behavior
Provide updates (if after first meeting)	• The team reviews their own progress towards completing assigned tasks • The team reviews the youth's progress on achieving outcomes since last meeting
During the meeting	
Identify priority need(s)	• The team reviews and adds to or modifies the needs of the youth that had been identified by the Community Advocate • The team selects the highest priority need or a few needs to be addressed

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Identify concrete goal(s)	• The team reviews, modifies, and selects one or a few concrete goal(s) to address selected needs
Identify and select strategies	• The team brainstorms multiple creative strategies • The team reviews barriers or challenges to implementing these strategies • The team endeavors to connect strategies to the youth's identified strengths • The team endeavors to connect strategies to existing community resources
Identify additional meeting participants	• The team reviews whether additional people are needed in order to accomplish goals • If additional people are needed, the team identifies them
At the end of the meeting	
Review action steps and assigned tasks	• Team reviews agreed-upon tasks and documents personal assignments for accomplishing tasks
Determine whether next meeting is necessary	• Team determines whether another meeting is necessary or should occur on an as-needed basis
Youth engagement	• The youth is specifically asked whether they endorse the plan
After the meeting	
Check-in on accomplishments	• Community Advocate checks in with team members (via phone, email, or in person) to determine whether tasks have been accomplished • Community Advocate provides support to youth to ensure they accomplish their objectives
Assess progress towards meeting needs	• Community Advocate reviews progress towards meeting the youth's needs and accomplishing goals identified by the team • The youth provides input to the CA about their progress and emerging needs

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Determine whether another meeting is needed	• Community Advocate determines whether another meeting is needed based on whether needs and goals have been met, whether new needs and goals have emerged, and whether these needs and goals require multidisciplinary collaboration to achieve them