New York City Stands Out as a Rare Local Agency Tallying Foster Youth on Psychotropics. What Do the Numbers Reveal?

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This is the 2nd part of a 2-part series. The article highlights concerning statistics and practices regarding the prescription of psychiatric medications to foster youth in New York City. It reveals that one in four foster youth aged 7 to 17, and one in three in group facilities, are prescribed powerful psychotropic drugs. Despite federal warnings and calls for transparency, the practice continues, with some older teens even receiving antipsychotics, which can have severe side effects. While New York City has released data on these prescriptions, other parts of the state lack similar transparency, raising questions about oversight and the use of alternative treatments.

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