

Mike DeWine, Governor Kimberly Hall, Director

Dear Directors:

The first half of the National Youth in Transition Database Survey began October 1, 2020 and will conclude on March 31, 2021. During this period, agencies and courts must ensure that young adults in the sample population complete the NYTD Survey. The current sample population consists of 21-year-old young adults who were in your county's custody and completed the surveys at ages 17 and 19.

The information submitted is essential to help us identify the needs and outcomes of these vulnerable young adults. In addition, Ohio must meet a participation rate of 60% for any young adult not in care in order to avoid a 2.5% financial penalty against the state's federal Chafee allocation.

Certainly finding 21-year olds can be challenging, however, you are encouraged to begin this process as soon as possible. A NYTD Statistical Report can now be generated in SACWIS to assist your staff in locating these young adults and assisting them in completing the survey.

To increase participation, Chafee or TANF IL payments can be given to those who reach their twenty-first birthday within the reporting period and complete the survey. An incentive of \$50.00 to \$100.00 is suggested and use of a check recommended.

If you have questions regarding the NYTD Statistical Report, please contact Chris Beach at <u>Christopher.Beach@jfs.ohio.gov</u>. If you have policy questions regarding NYTD, please send your inquiries to the Transition Age Youth Programs mailbox at <u>Transition-Youth-Programs@jfs.ohio.gov</u>. As always, if you need immediate assistance, you may contact the SACWIS Help Desk at 1-800-686-1580, options 3 then 5.

With your assistance, Ohio has consistently met the federal participation standards for the past nine years and we look forward to doing so again. We appreciate your on-going efforts to better the lives of Ohio's foster youth. Thank you.

Jeffery Van Deusen, *Deputy Director* Office of Families and Children Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

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