



**Department of  
Job and Family Services**

**John R. Kasich**, Governor  
**Michael B. Colbert**, Director

January 11, 2012

**To:** Directors, Public Children Service Agencies  
Directors, Private Child Placing Agencies

**From:** Jennifer Justice,  Acting Deputy Director  
Office of Families and Children

**Subject:** National Youth in Transition Database

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to ensure youth needing independent living services receive assistance towards independence and self-sufficiency. The requirements of the National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD) to collect data for the baseline and served populations beginning FFY 2011 (October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011), has been fulfilled. The data collected has been timely and accurate.

The collection of data will begin with this cohort study group again in FFY 13 (October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013), when the young adults surveyed will be 19 years of age. Continued support for these individuals is essential for their success in life. Youth who emancipate from foster care frequently face multiple challenges (e.g. housing/homelessness, unplanned pregnancies, unemployment and other hardships). It is important to maintain an accurate assessment of this population's needs in order to better serve them.

Therefore, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) suggest that agencies:

- ❖ Maintain communication with the baseline cohort study group; and
- ❖ Continue providing the NYTD surveys to youth in care as they reach their 17<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The suggestion to continue surveying youth in care provides continuity of data collection, which will greatly enhance identification of service gaps and program development. If you have any questions on this matter, please feel free to contact Elaine Hall at 614-752-0080 or email [Elaine.Early-Hall@jfs.ohio.gov](mailto:Elaine.Early-Hall@jfs.ohio.gov).

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