



National Youth in Transition Database

Information for Caregivers About the Survey

What is the survey: The federal government requires all states to collect information on youth in or leaving foster care. NYTD surveys are being requested in all States to collect information on how youth leaving foster care are doing and how resources are used.

Who Completes Survey: All youth, aged 14-23, who receive services through their involvement with the state complete one survey. Some youth in foster care who are turning age 17 during certain federal fiscal years complete a separate survey. This 17-year-old group is referred to as the Baseline Group. A portion of those 17-year-olds will be randomly chosen to complete a survey again at ages 19 and 21. In the event the youth is one of the randomly selected 17-year-olds, someone will contact them when they turn 19 and again when they turn 21 to complete the additional surveys.

How Will Information be Used: Data will be used to evaluate and improve programs that help foster youth become independent adults.

Benefits of Participation: Completing the NYTD survey allows the youth to use their experience to improve the future for other foster youth. The state must have a certain level of participation and compliance with the survey in order to not lose federal money that funds youth programs and services. Each year the state must keep up with some 17-year-old youths so they can be surveyed again at ages 19 and 21. In order to assist with locating these youth there will be a yearly reunion for the Baseline Group.

Survey Is Voluntary: The youth's participation is voluntary and there will be no penalty to them if they choose not to participate. While completing the survey, the youth may decline to respond to any questions they do not want to answer.

Confidentiality: The youth's name and personal information will not be released outside the department in a way that will identify them. The information will be compiled into a data report based on all the youth responses to the surveys.

Youth Can Stay Connected:

The youth are being asked to contact their local DCFS office each time their contact information (address, phone number, email) changes. They are given the name, phone number, and address of the local office to contact.

Check out the Youth Link at DCFS
www.dcfslouisiana.gov/YouthLink

More Information:

Contact Christy Tate, DCFS NYTD Liaison at
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