



## A Caseworker's Guide to Preparing Youth for the NYTD Baseline Survey:

Please refer to this guide for some general information on preparing youth to take the Pennsylvania NYTD Baseline survey. The goal is that by better preparing youth to take the survey, we as a state will gather more accurate information and a truer picture of how older youth are transitioning across the state.

### In speaking with youth prior to the survey:

#### Do mention:

- You will be asked a variety of questions that policymakers and lawmakers are interested in hearing about.
- The answers are simple: yes, no, or I don't know. It is okay not to know all of the answers. My role is to assist you in having as much of the necessary information to complete the survey as possible.
- You may find some of the questions difficult to understand, just do the best that you can. No answers are right or wrong, they are your answers.
- After taking the survey no one gets in trouble based on your answers. No one sees your individual answers, we only see the total answers.

#### Don't:

- Don't read each question and tell the youth how they should answer it.

### Incorporating Learning Opportunities:

- Use the survey questions in a life skills group or individual session to teach/discuss with youth about different topics such as: homelessness, social security benefits, health insurance, and other "real life" issues they may face during their transition.
- For example:
  - Start a group by stating, statistics show that \_\_\_\_% of you will be homeless at least one time by age 25.
  - How many of you know what health insurance is? How much does it cost? Do you know how to get it? Where to get it? Do you currently have health insurance? Use this opportunity to inform youth of the Affordable Care Act Coverage they may be eligible for as of January 2014.

Not only are these answers important in completing the NYTD survey, but also key to a successful transition to self-sufficiency.

### Make sure youth are prepared to answer questions with regard to:

Personal Demographic Information

Education/Educational Expenses

Employment History

Adult permanent connections (Name, phone #, email address)

Financial

Access to healthcare/types of coverage