

Good afternoon,

Please see below/attached for information and resources related to your work with older youth.

- Publicly Placed (see attached)
- Survey for pregnant/parenting youth
- OCYF Trauma Team Newsletter (attached)
- Act 1 of 2022

Publicly Placed

PDE has requested that OCYF share the attached flyer with all county children and youth agencies for further distribution to parents/guardians/caregivers of children placed in Private Residential Rehabilitative Institutions (PRRIs), detention centers, state correctional facilities, or child residential facilities, as defined in [55 Pa. Code § 3800.5](#).

If you need assistance with a Publicly Placed Educational Complaint, please contact the PDE Monitoring and Accountability Office at RA-EDPubPlacedCompl@pa.gov.

Thank you,



Office of the Deputy Secretary
Office of Children, Youth and Families

Health and Human Services Building
625 Forster Street, Room 131
Harrisburg, PA 17105
Phone: 717-787-4756
Fax: 717-787-0414

www.dhs.pa.gov | www.keepkidssafe.pa.gov | www.secretssafe.org

If you suspect child abuse or neglect, please call ChildLine to make a confidential report at 1-800-932-0313

NOTICE: This confidential message/attachment contains information intended for a specific individual(s) and purpose. Any inappropriate use, distribution or copying is strictly prohibited. If received in error, notify the sender and immediately delete the message.

Survey for Pregnant/Parenting Youth:

The Pennsylvania Youth Advisory Board created this survey in order to better determine the experiences of parenting youth in foster care. Answers will be kept confidential and be used by the Board to determine what services are available and what supports could be put in place to improve on parenting youths' experiences and outcomes. The survey is now posted on the website:

<https://forms.cwrc.pitt.edu/ParentingYouthSurvey/>.

OCYF Trauma Team Newsletter:



Trauma-Informed Care: Good for Everyone

Trauma-Informed Care (TIC) is more than a set of practices—it's an organizational mindset that shapes how we interact, support each other, and achieve our best work together. While TIC is essential for those who have experienced trauma, recent research highlights that its benefits extend to every member of our organization (Fratto, 2016; Isobel et al., 2021).

Beyond our organization, it is important to recognize the dedication of temporary caregivers—whether through kinship or foster placements—across Pennsylvania. Parenting traumatized children can be challenging and often leads to frustration and exhaustion. However, caregivers' calm and consistent responses are vital to a child's healing. Maintaining this approach requires trauma-informed strategies, such as regulation and de-escalation, both in working with children in foster care and in addressing the effects of secondary trauma. (<https://www.thrivewithin.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/guide-for-foster-parents.pdf>)

Why Does Trauma-Informed Care Matter?

- ☐ **Enhances Psychological Safety:** When we prioritize safety and trust, everyone feels more comfortable sharing ideas, asking questions, and taking healthy risks, which leads to innovation and teamwork (Isobel et al., 2021).
 - ☐ **Reduces Burnout:** TIC emphasizes self-care, peer support, and open communication, all of which help prevent staff stress and burnout (Fratto, 2016).
 - ☐ **Improves Relationships:** Recognizing that everyone has a unique story fosters empathy, patience, and stronger connections among colleagues (Isobel et al., 2021).
 - ☐ **Boosts Productivity:** When staff feel supported and valued, job satisfaction and productivity naturally increase (Fratto, 2016).
 - ☐ **Promotes Equity and Inclusion:** Trauma-informed approaches help us identify and address systemic barriers, making our workplace more welcoming and equitable (Isobel et al., 2021).
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- Fratto, C. M. (2016). Trauma-Informed Care for Youth in Foster Care. *Archives of Psychiatric Nursing*, 30(3), 439-446. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apnu.2016.01.007>
- Isobel, S., Goodyear, M., Foster, K., & Edwards, C. (2021). Preventing intergenerational trauma transmission: A critical interpretive synthesis. *Journal of Clinical Nursing*, 30(17-18), 2420-2435. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jocn.15770>

Act 1 of 2022

Questions about Act 1 of 2022? Visit our FAQ page!

Act 1 of 2022 helps ensure students experiencing educational instability have the support they need to stay engaged in school and graduate on time. The law requires Pennsylvania school entities to identify eligible students, remove barriers to academic and extracurricular participation, and provide individualized supports that promote educational stability and

success. The Pennsylvania Department of Education and CSC are committed to helping schools accurately identify eligible students and implement the requirements of Act 1.

Our FAQ page provides answers to common questions, including:

- Which students are eligible for Act 1 protections?
- What responsibilities do school entities have under Act 1?

[Visit the Act 1 FAQ page.](#)

Have a great weekend.

Thank you,

Meghan O'Hare, MSW