NYTD is a data collection system used to track independent living services and their efficiency in assisting youth with transitioning out of care. The information is collected through surveys by youth in care and alumni youth about their lives and the services provided by Independent Living Coordinators, PCCs, and foster homes. All states are asked to report independent living services that are being provided to youth and to survey certain youth at ages 17, 19 and 21. This data will allow Kentucky to consider the services as they are currently provided and evaluate our strengths as well as gaps so we can more successfully prepare our older youth for transition from care to independence.

**What data will be collected?**
Kentucky’s regional Independent Living Coordinators will be primarily responsible for collecting data and overseeing the database and will need your help in obtaining data that is not available to them. NYTD Checklists are circulating throughout the state to help gain the needed information while ILCs collect information by reviewing TWIST, and gathering information from workers and private agency providers. The first round of surveys has been sent by Out of Home Care Branch staff to all committed 17-year-old youth since last October.

**Why should you be involved?**
We know that the outcomes of many youth who leave care are not always that positive. By participating in requests for information from the ILC coordinators for NYTD, you can help change those outcomes. This is your chance to make sure that independent living services and outcomes for youth you work with are counted. Your involvement will ultimately improve services for older youth.

For more information, check out Kentucky Independent Living on Facebook.

“Did You Know?” is brought to you weekly from the Coordinating Services for Children Workgroup. If you would like more information, please contact the OOHC Branch by calling (502) 564-2147.