January 2018
Reflecting on a Year of Accomplishments

We’ve accomplished a lot in 2017. No matter what role you have in supporting youth, families, and communities, the past year is one to celebrate. Many have worked hard to improve efficiency, overcome challenges, and create better lives for the youth we serve.

The following accomplishments are ones we pause to celebrate as we head into 2018.

**Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) Expansion**
DYS not only added two county JDAI sites—Ashtabula and Warren Counties—bringing the total to 10, but also hosted the inaugural statewide JDAI conference in November, bringing together participating JDAI counties, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, community stakeholders, and representatives from 23 counties wanting to learn more about JDAI. Additional counties have already expressed interest in becoming part of the next JDAI cohort.

**Ohio Youth Assessment System (OYAS) 2.0**
DYS released the new and improved automated OYAS 2.0 web-based system, for justice professionals from the bench to the field, to quickly access various levels of data (individual and aggregate), easily input and score risk assessment information (fewer clicks), and utilize an improved case plan (customizable domains). Since June, staff from more than 50 courts and Community Corrections Facilities have been trained and are using OYAS 2.0.

**PRIDE**
A new behavior management system called PRIDE (Positive Response Incentive Driven Environment) rolled out. The new approach raises the bar for how youth behave in the facilities as well as expectations for participation in education, treatment and programming. This level system incentivizes youths’ personal responsibility and self-management to promote safe, positive facility environments.
Without creating any new positions, the agency formed a Bureau of Community Engagement and Reentry to make preparing and planning for youth transitioning back to their home communities a higher priority. The team serves as key contacts for employment, mentorship, and community service opportunities for youth. Efforts are becoming increasingly collaborative, thanks to active partnerships with employers, nonprofits, and a range of local resources.