January 2019
Core Values Updated with Input from Staff

Happy New Year to you all! I hope you celebrated the start of 2019 in good health with family and friends.

Now that we are a few days into the New Year, it is a fitting time to share that through input from staff across the state, we have refreshed our core values:

**DYS Core Values**

“Our BEST”

- Our staff are our greatest resource
- Believe every person can change
- Encourage the best for youth and families
- Strive to provide youth with everything they need to succeed
- Treat everyone with respect

These five statements describe why we do this important work and reflect what is most valuable to DYS. Our core values are the basis for all that we do including regarding our colleagues with care, maintaining a positive mindset, and interacting constructively with youth, families, and communities.

Our refreshed core values encourage us to give our best. While there are many things outside of our control, the one thing we can always choose to do is give our best. This means pushing ourselves beyond what we think we can do when times get tough. Giving our best means practicing as many times as it takes to become skilled. It means participating in as many ways as you can, knowing that it will make a difference.

My hope for you in 2019 is that as you give your best, you will realize even bigger possibilities, both personally and professionally. Remember, your best is whatever it takes. It is going that extra mile. Whatever 100% is for you, go out there and give it!