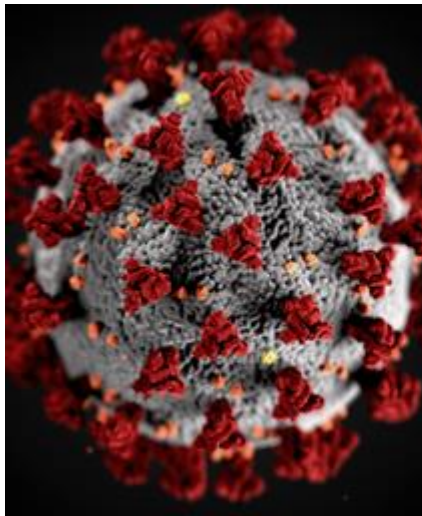


## FOSTER YOUTH & COVID19: A RESEARCH STUDY

Field Center Faculty Directors **Dr. Johanna Greeson** and **Dr. Sara Jaffee**, along with Program Manager **Sarah Wasch**, recently launched an online survey study in response to the COVID19 crisis. The purpose of this national study, titled "The Experiences of Foster Youth During COVID-19" is to assess how older youth in foster care and those who recently aged out of foster care are faring with COVID19 in the key areas of basic needs, education, employment, finances, personal connections, and health/mental health.

Youth aging out of foster care and those who have recently aged out are among the most marginalized groups in this country. They experience countless hardships when they transition from foster care to adulthood on their own, and with the added difficulties of COVID19, these young people are among those bearing the heaviest burden of this crisis. By gaining a clearer picture of these burdens, stakeholders will be better able to advocate for the needs of these young people.



## FOSTER YOUTH & COVID-19

To participate in this research study on the impact of COVID-19, you must be:

- Currently in foster care or aged out of foster care
- 18-23 years old



The online survey is available until **May 2, 2020**. Any youth ages 18-23 in foster care or who aged out of foster care is eligible to complete the survey, which takes approximately 10-15 minutes. Participants will be offered the option of being entered into a raffle at the end of the survey to win one of twelve \$25 Target gift cards.

The Field Center will disseminate preliminary results soon after the survey closes with the goal of publishing a future academic paper on the national response to COVID19 as it affects older youth in foster care and aged out of foster care. To visit the online survey, click [here](#).

For more information about the study, please contact the principal investigator, Dr. Johanna Greeson, by phone (215-573-9779) or email ([jgreeson@sp2.upenn.edu](mailto:jgreeson@sp2.upenn.edu)).