



Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

DANIEL W. TIETZ
Commissioner

BARBARA C. GUINN
Executive Deputy Commissioner

March 14, 2023

Brian Reilly
Audit Director
Office of the State Comptroller
110 State Street
Albany, NY 12236

Re: Selected State Agencies' Roles in
Financial Literacy 2020-S-53

Dear Brian Reilly:

The New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) respectfully submits this 180-day response to the Office of the State Comptroller's (OSC) final report regarding the Selected State Agencies' Roles in Financial Literacy (Report 2020-S-53 (September 2022)). The purpose of this letter is to provide an update on OTDA's implementation of the recommendation made by the OSC regarding the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). Pursuant to Section 170 of the Executive Law, copies of this response will be sent separately to the Governor, the State Comptroller, and the leaders of the Legislature, as well as fiscal committees.

In response to the specific recommendation in OSC's report, OTDA responds as follows:

OSC's Recommendation

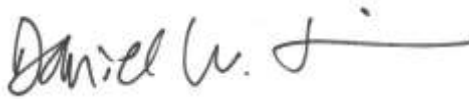
OSC recommended that OTDA implement a method to obtain SYEP participant input to identify potential strengths and weaknesses in financial literacy offerings and share this information with partners as considered appropriate.

OTDA supports the recommendation made by the OSC and has designed policy guidance and instructions to be included in connection with the upcoming 2023 SYEP. SYEP providers will be directed to gather participant input to help identify potential strengths and weaknesses in their respective financial literacy offerings.

OTDA releases an annual Local Commissioners' Memorandum (LCM) to notify Social Services Districts (districts) of their SYEP allocation and to provide general program guidance regarding operation of the SYEP. The upcoming 2023 SYEP LCM shall instruct districts, and their designated program providers, to identify the strengths and weaknesses of their current financial literacy training provided to youth, including gathering participant input as needed for evaluation of their program. SYEP providers will be advised to use this feedback as part of an overall evaluation of the current content and method of delivery and to share with their financial literacy training partners as appropriate. The LCM will request that each district inform OTDA of their plan to evaluate their current curriculums. This information will be submitted to OTDA as a component of each district's 2023 SYEP Performance Goals and Planned Program Details required for review.

If you have questions or comments concerning our response in this letter, please contact Thomas Cooper at (518) 473-4601 or Thomas.Cooper@otda.ny.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel W. Tietz". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Daniel W. Tietz
Commissioner

cc: Barbara C. Guinn