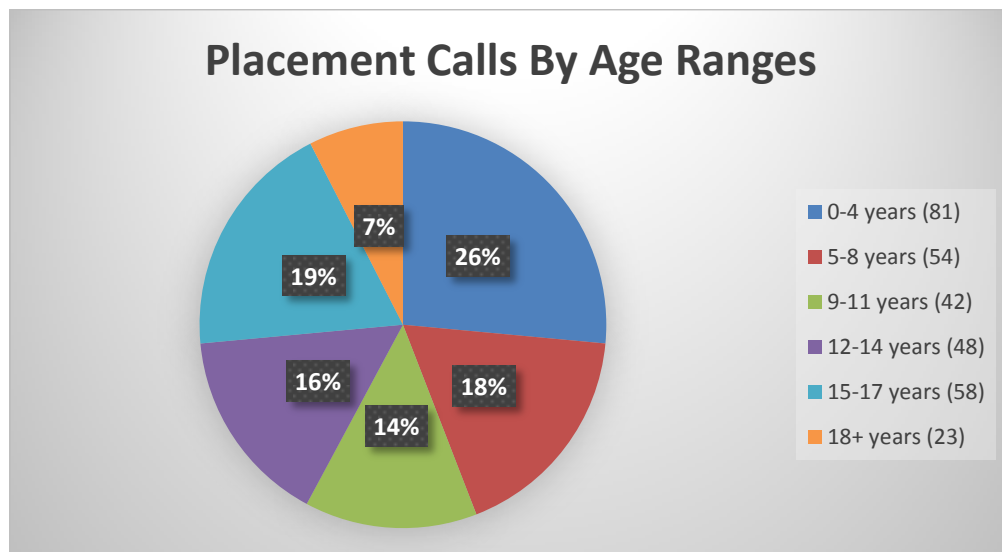




“Facing the challenges of daily life each and every day.....forever struggling, forever maturing, working hard, to one day say, ‘I did it! I made it! I have finally come of age!’”

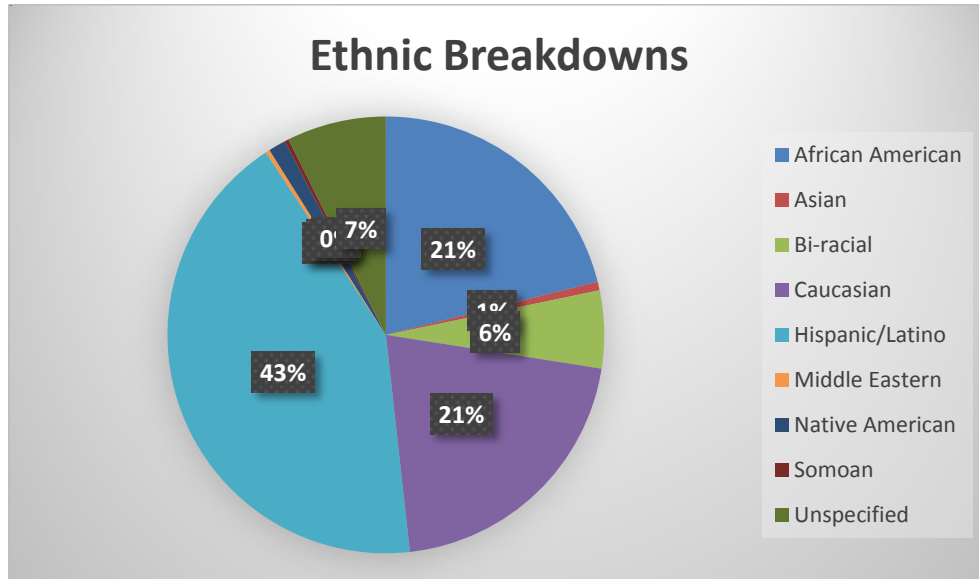
## Intake Statistics for April 2016

During the month of April, our agency saw a large number of referrals for young children between the ages of 0-8 years of age. Unfortunately, this does not bode well for the number of young children who are entering the foster care system. Typically, our agency is known for caring for teenage children, however during the first four months of this year, the number of referrals for younger children have been significant in regards to previous year.



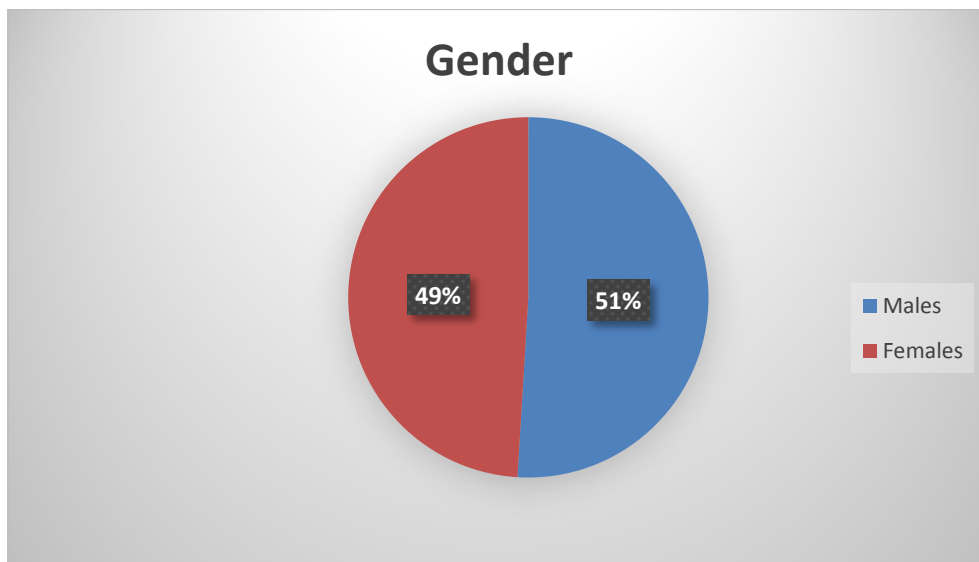
The numbers identified in parenthesis represent the total number of actual calls received for that particular age group. Thus, there were a total of **81** calls for children 0-4 years of age during this particular month which was an increase of roughly 17% from last month where we had 64 calls for youth in this particular age group. As stated above, it appears that during the first four months of this particular year, the number of young children being referred to our agency has seen a sharp increase in the need for foster parents willing to accept children in this particular age range.

A breakdown of the various ethnicities of those children being referred to placement is identified below.



As you can see, Hispanic/Latino children continue to comprise the largest percentage of the youth who are being referred to our agency for placement, however Caucasian children and African American children continue to be tied in terms of the ethnic backgrounds of children being referred to our agency. This has been a consistent pattern with regards to the youth that we are seeing referred to the agency.

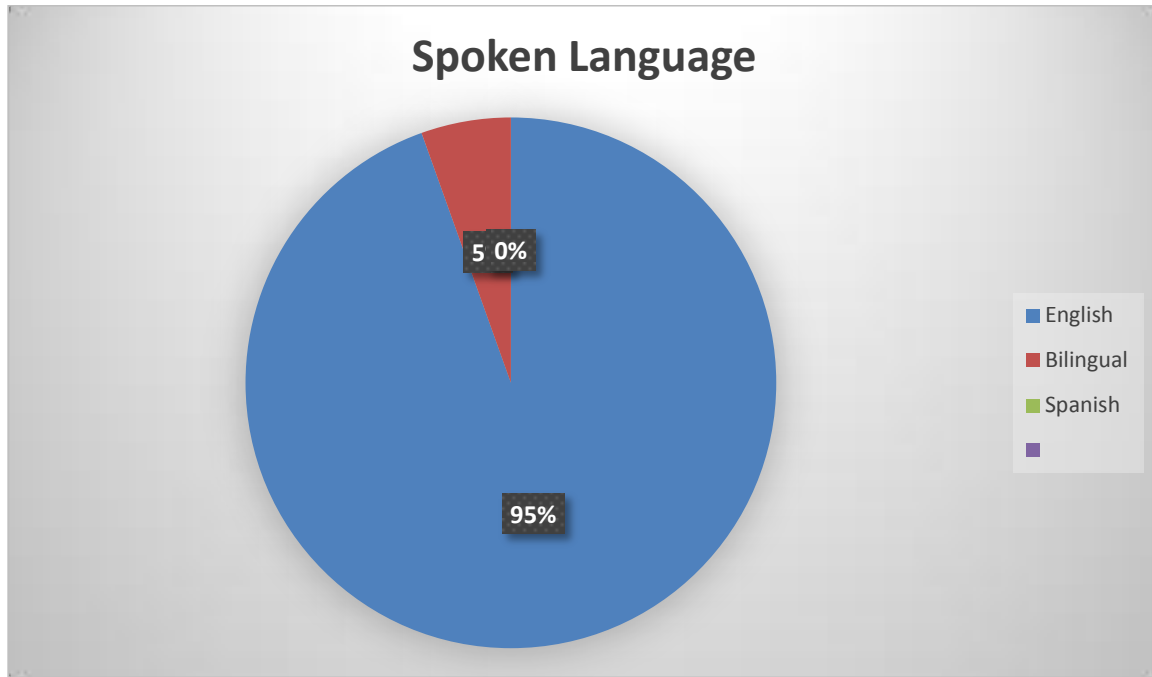
When considering the issue of gender, the chart below provides a general overview for this month as to what the gender breakdown looked like this month.



This particular month, there was a slight increase in the number of males referred to our agency. This has been a consistent pattern in which males tend to be referred to the agency at a slightly higher rate than

females. Last month however was a bit of a surprise in that this was the first month of the year in which there were more females referred to the agency than males.

One final observation to consider is the differences in the languages spoken by those youths who are needing placements. To consider this, the agency looked at the total number of youth who were referred for placement in the month and identified which youth were classified by the County as English speakers, Spanish speakers, or Bilingual speakers. The graph below provided the results.



The vast majority of the children being referred to the agency for placement continue to be English only speakers. Unfortunately, the agency has observed a consistent pattern over the past four months regarding the languages spoken by the youth being referred to placement. The training classes for prospective foster parents have made it a point to acknowledge and point out to prospective foster parents this particular need of our agency.

The total number of English speakers does include some infants who are non-verbal but identified as being English speakers by the County (i.e. Caucasian and Black infants who will eventually learn English as their primary language). This continues to support the notion that even though the agency has a lot of children who are Hispanic, a large and vast majority of these youth are not Spanish speaking only children and only a small minority of these children and youth are bilingual.