

**“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 2020**

During the month of April, our agency saw a major reduction in the total number of children referred to our agency. It was noticed, however, that children between the ages of 15-17 years of age were referred the most during this particular month. Furthermore, there were a large percentage of children ages 9-11 years that were also referred for placement. This was a bit of a surprise as children typically 12-14 years of age being the second highest reported age bracket of children.

 and that children between the ages of 12-14 years of age far exceeded the number of children referred in comparison to all other age groups. This was observed to be a big of a shift as previous months typically resulted in younger children (roughly 9-17 years of age being referred in the greatest numbers). This new trend will be monitored over the course of the next several months to see if there is a greater shift towards teenagers needing placement more so than younger children. During this particular month, there were a total of 117 youth referred to the agency from both Riverside and San Bernardino Counties which are the only two counties that we have a contract with at this time.

The numbers identified in parenthesis represent the total number of actual calls received for that particular age group. Thus, there were a total of **12** calls for children 0-4 years of age during this particular month.

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

During the month of April, there were more African American children referred for placement as compared to other ethnicities of children who were referred for placement. This was observed to be a bit of a surprise as African American children were usually the second highest ethnic group for placements. This will be observed to see if this is a developing new trend or simply a one-time circumstance. Caucasian and Hispanic children were also referred as the second and third highest ethnic groups for placement. This continues to demonstrate the need for having Resource Parents who are willing to accept children of all ethnic backgrounds into their home due to the changes in ethnic patterns of children referred to our agency for placement.

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 month saw a significant decrease in the total number youth that were referred to the agency as compared to the previous month. However, the number of males versus females were evenly referred for placements. The agency also saw 5 transgendered youth being referred for placement during the course of this month.

One final observation to consider is the differences in the languages spoken by those youths who are being referred to our agency for 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 only speakers, Spanish only speakers, Bilingual, or in some cases “Unknown” due to the County not stating a language spoken by the child. The graph below provided the results.

During the month of April , there was 1 Spanish only speaking children referred to placement. All of the other children referred to placement were English-only speaking or bilingual (English & Spanish speaking) children. For clarification, only 2 children were identified as bilingual by the County which resulted in the remaining 114 children being English-only speaking. In regards to infants, the County will consider the spoken language by the parents to identify what language the child will most likely speak. This information is used to calculate the language spoken by infants as well. Resource Parents or applicants who are Spanish only speakers need to understand this as placements take considerably longer if the primary caretaker only speaks Spanish as CPS will want to know that the child and caretaker can communicate with one another.