

**“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 March 2019**

During the month of March, our agency saw no major changes 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 and that children between the ages of 12-17 years of age far exceeded the number of children referred in comparison to all other age groups. This was observed to be a bit of a shift as previous months typically resulted in younger children (roughly 0-4 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 191 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 **31** 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 March, there were more Caucasan and Hispanic children referred for placement as compared to other ethnicities of children who were referred for placement. During this particular month, it was noticed that Hispanic children were not in the majority of those children referred to the agency. Again, this was observed to be a bit of a surprise overall in that although there were previous months last year that demonstrated a larger number of non-Hispanic youth being referred, there was a pattern where the largest majority of children placed had typically been Hispanic. This demonstrates 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 small increase in the total number youth that were referred to the agency as compared to the previous month. It was noticed that there were also more females that males who were referred to the agency for placement. The agency also currently serves the needs of one transgendered youth at this time who was referred and placed into one of our Resource Family Homes 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 March, there was only 3 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 8 children were identified as bilingual by the County which resulted in the remaining 180 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.