



OFFICE OF THE
STUDENT
ADVOCATE

School Year 2016-17
Quarter 1 & 2 Report
August 2016 – January 2017



Our Mission

The mission of the Office of the Student Advocate is to support and empower DC residents to achieve equal access to public education through advocacy, outreach, and information services. In our work, we provide step-by-step assistance for students, parents, families, and community members to be informed, be connected, and be empowered

HOW OUR WORK SUPPORTS FAMILIES



Stakeholder & Community Engagement

Partner with stakeholders to address systemic issues.



Requests for Assistance

Provides direct insight into the needs of students and families.



Resources for DC Families

Information obtained through RFAs and stakeholder engagement is used to develop relevant trainings, resources, presentations, and workshops to support the needs of District families

Our work is influenced through our stakeholder engagement, individual discussions with parents, and strategic partnerships.

In Our Work...

- ✓ Our office aims to directly represent the voice of families and communities.
 - ✓ To do this work, our office collaborates with and builds alliances and partnerships within our communities with the support of parents, government agencies, community-based organizations, and educators. Through advocacy and engagement, our office works to eliminate barriers to collaboration.
 - ✓ We aim to foster the development of collaborative partnerships with government and community members to recommend and implement effective policies, programs, resources, and relationships that benefit our students and the continued improvement of our education system.

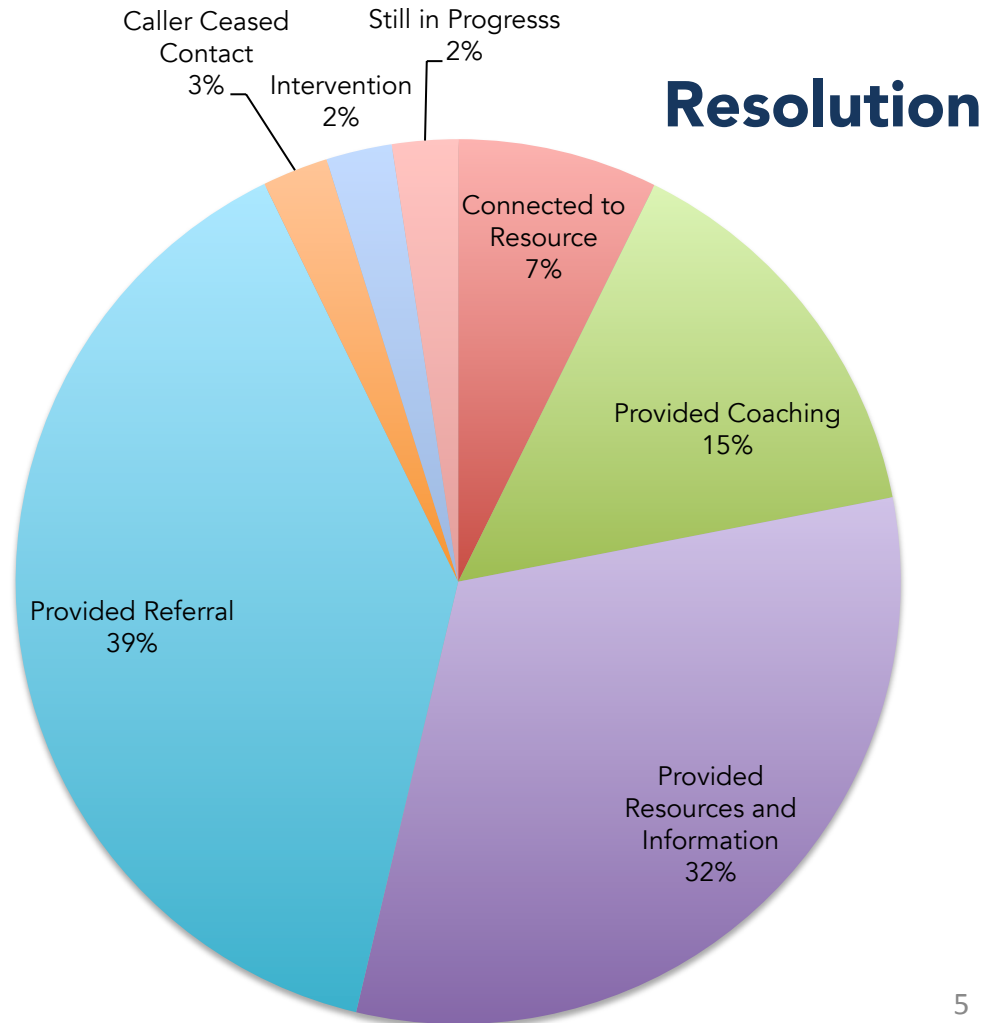
Quarter 1

August – October 2016

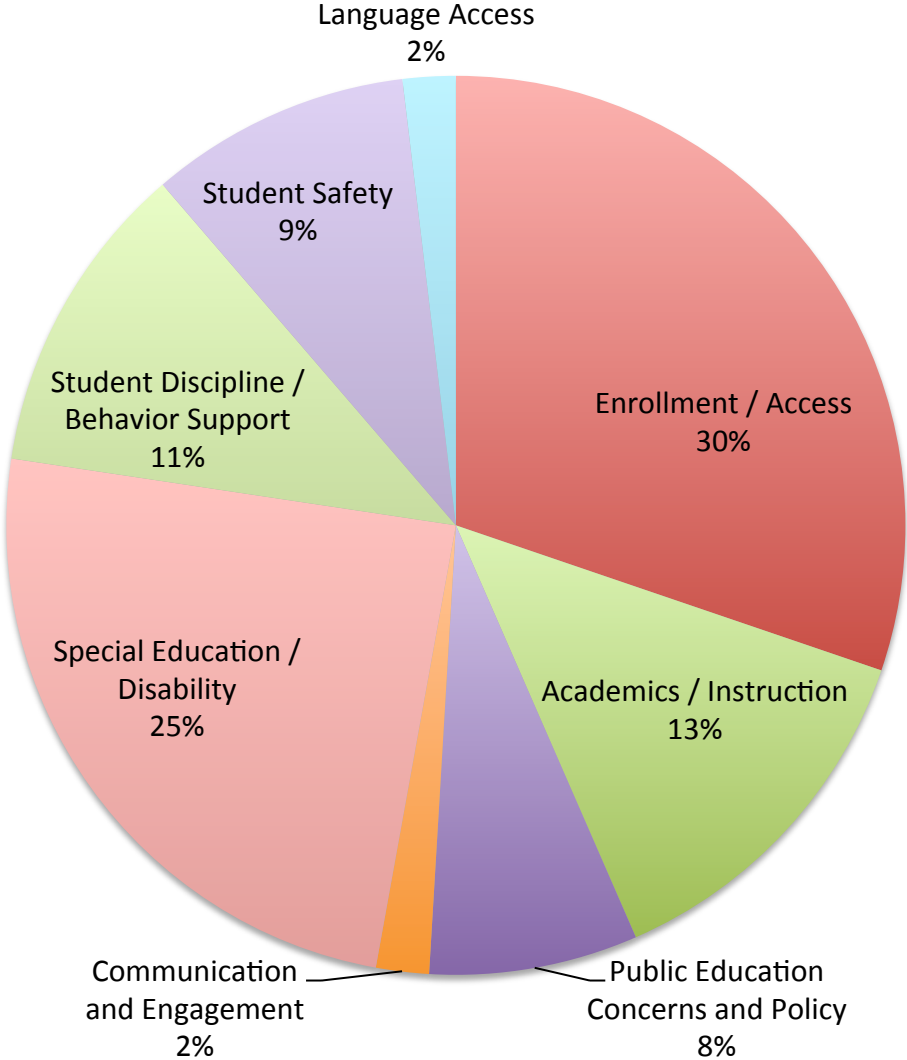
Request for Assistance (RFAs) – Quarter 1 Breakdown

56

Requests for Assistance
in Quarter 1

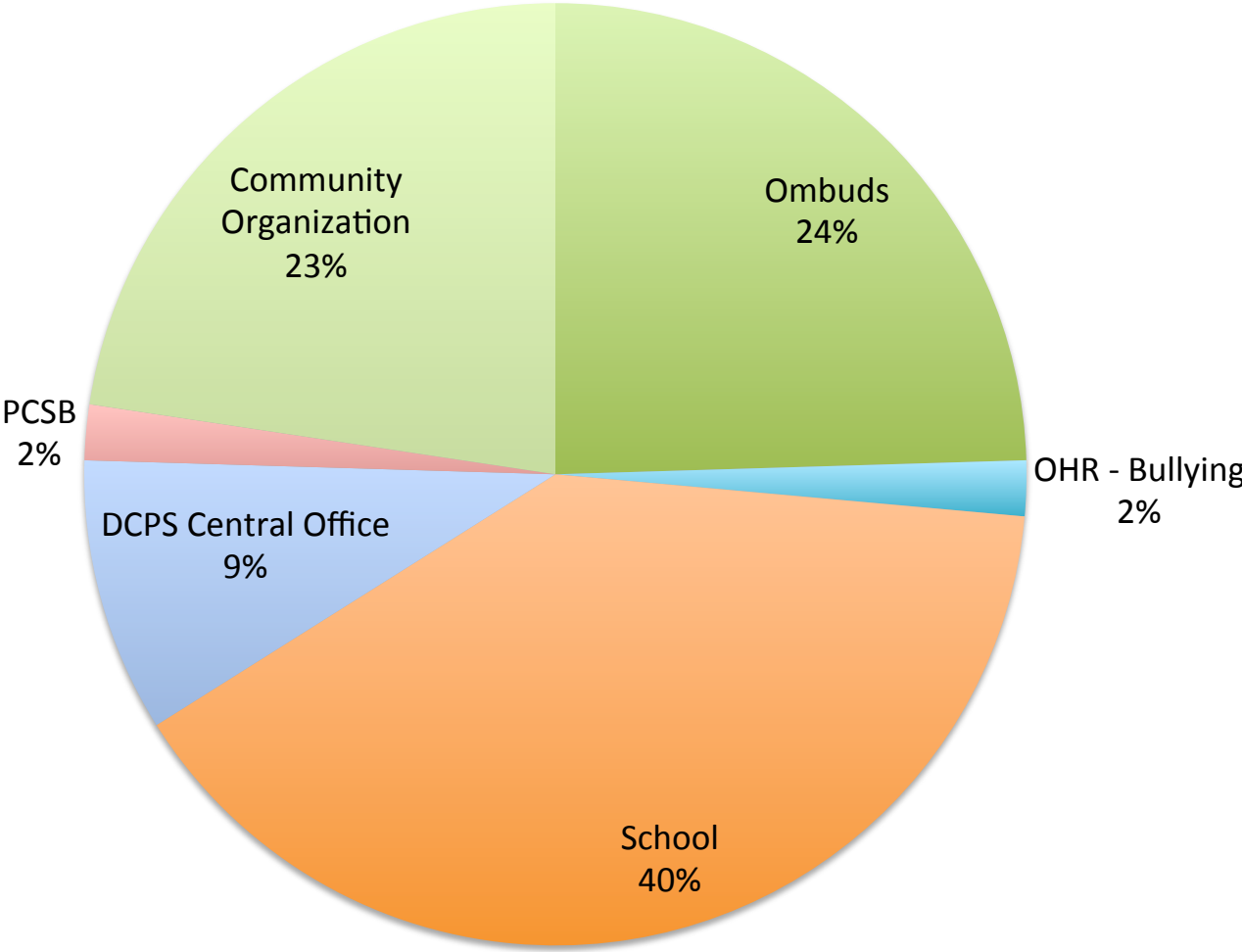


RFA Quarter 1 Topic Area



RFA Quarter 1

Organizational Referrals to Our Office



RFA Numbers by Sector Quarter 1

DC Public Schools: 66%

vs.

DC Public Charter Schools: 20%

...and

4% not enrolled in school

or

2% non-public or sector not shared

Quarter 2

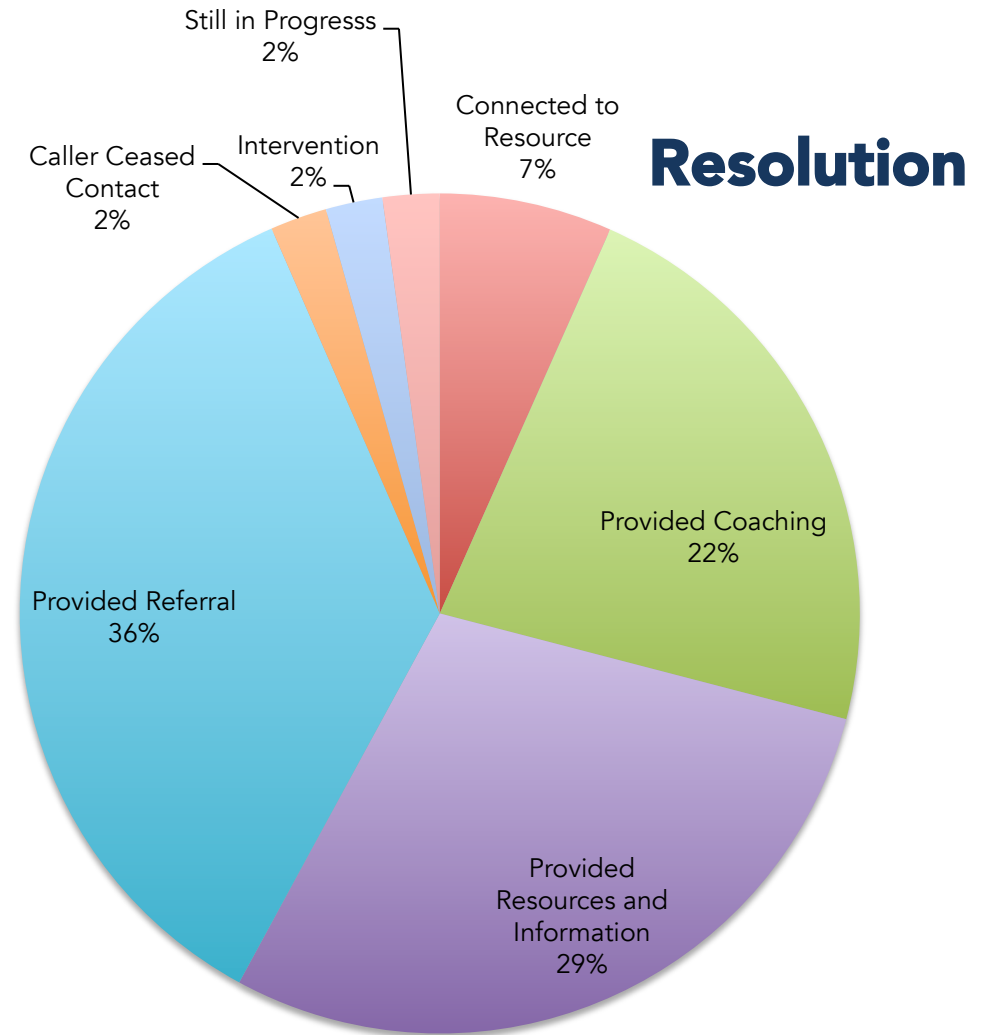
November 2016 – January 2017

(Note: Quarter 2 will end on January 31, 2017)

Request for Assistance (RFAs) – Quarter 2 Breakdown

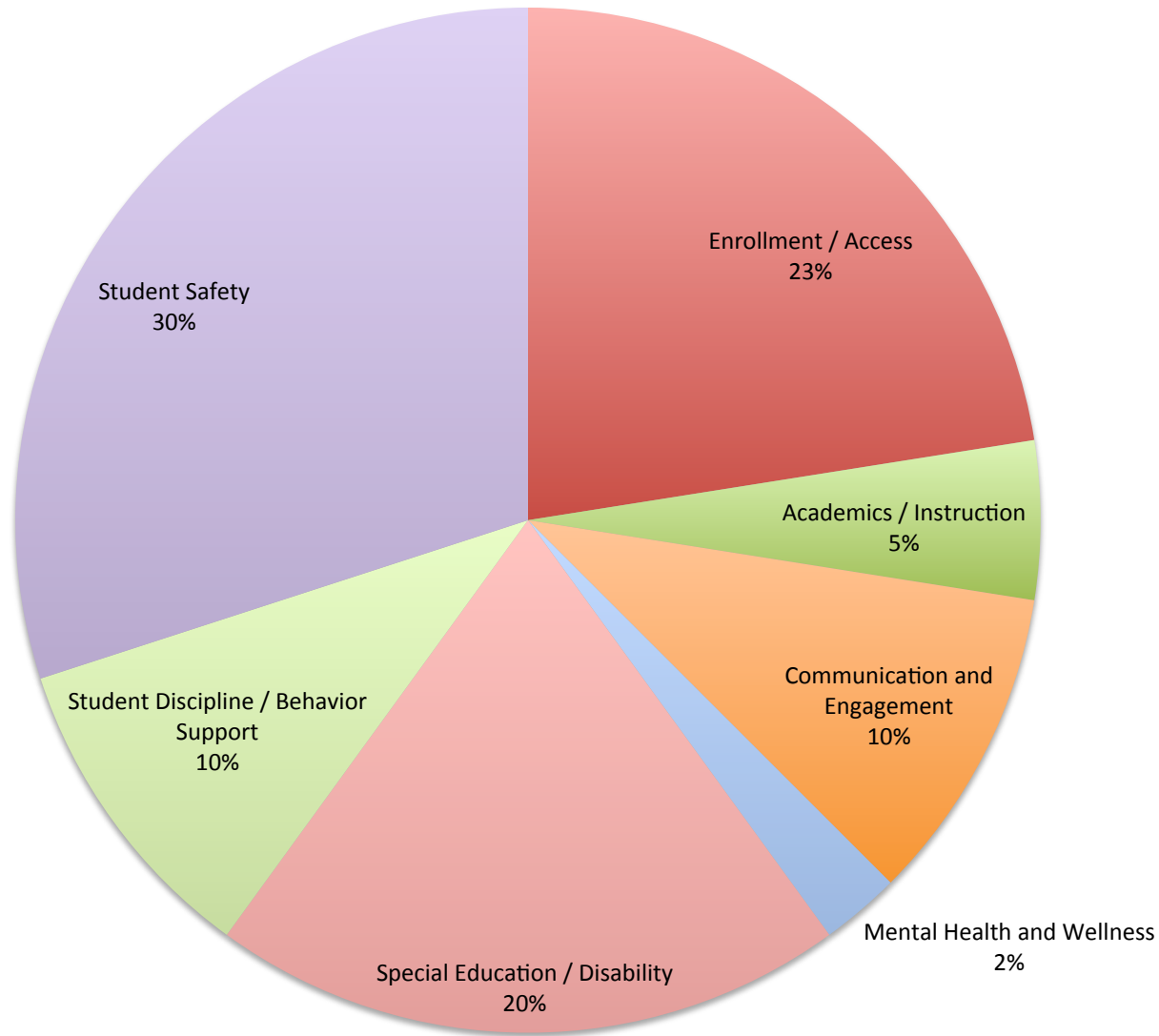
44

Requests for Assistance
in Quarter 2



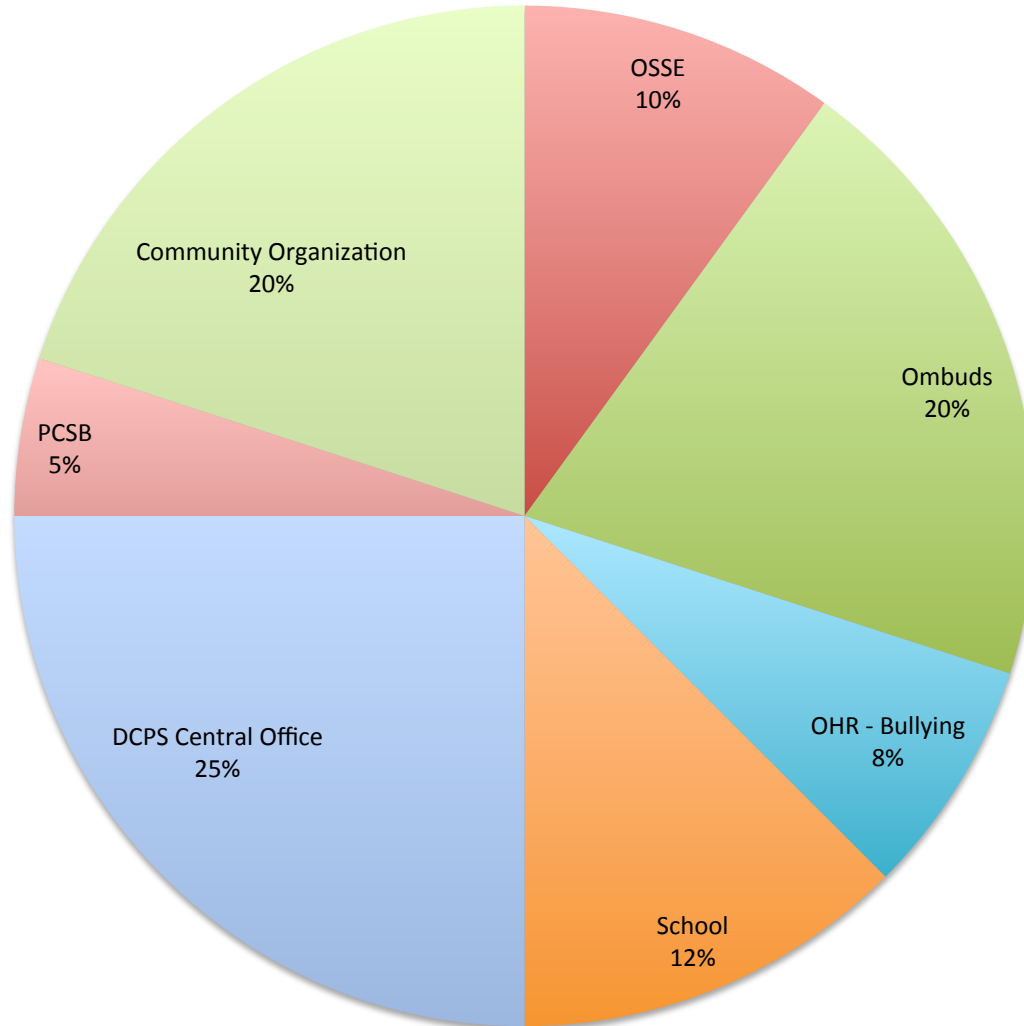
(Note: Quarter 2 will end on January 31, 2017)

RFA Quarter 2 Topic Areas



RFA Quarter 2

Organizational Referrals to Our Office



RFA Numbers by Sector Quarter 2

DC Public Schools: 54%

vs.

DC Public Charter Schools: 33%

...and

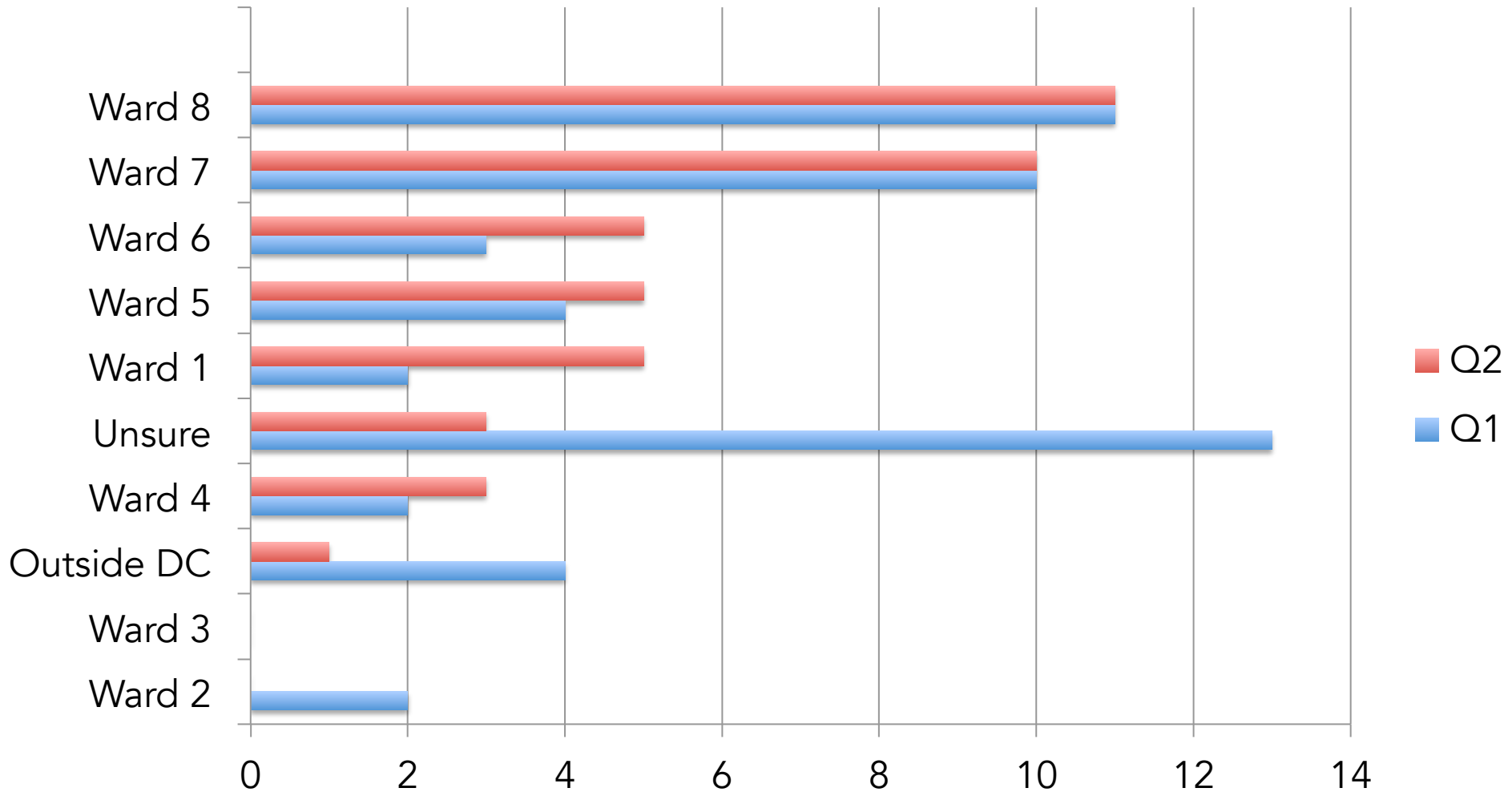
9% not enrolled in school

or

4% non-public or sector not shared

RFAs by Ward & SY Comparisons Quarter 1 & 2

RFA's – Ward Breakdown



(Note: Quarter 2 will end on January 31, 2017)

Where We Are Today

For Q1 & Q2 of our first school year (SY 2015-16):

...we processed a total of 53 RFAs
(SY15/16 from 6/29/15 to 12/31/15)

For Q1 & Q2 this school year (SY 2016-17 from August 2016 – January 4, 2017) to date:

...we have supported 100 individuals through our RFA process.

We have nearly doubled the number of RFAs we've addressed compared to last school year.

(*It's important to note that in our inaugural year, we calculated the number of RFAs at the inception of the office, which meant that we have nearly doubled our number of RFAs, even though this quarter is 45 days shorter than last year.)

Outreach & Engagement Quarter 1 & 2

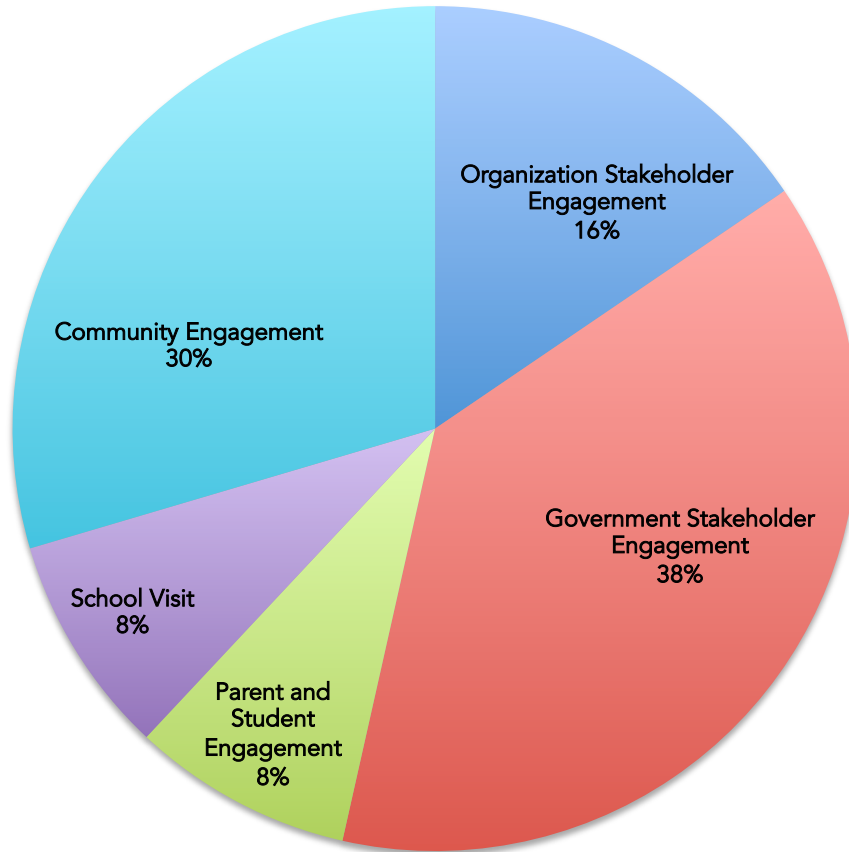
August 1, 2016 – January 4, 2017

(Note: Quarter 2 will end on January 31, 2017)

Quarter 1 & 2

Outreach & Engagement Activities

Stakeholder Engagement Type

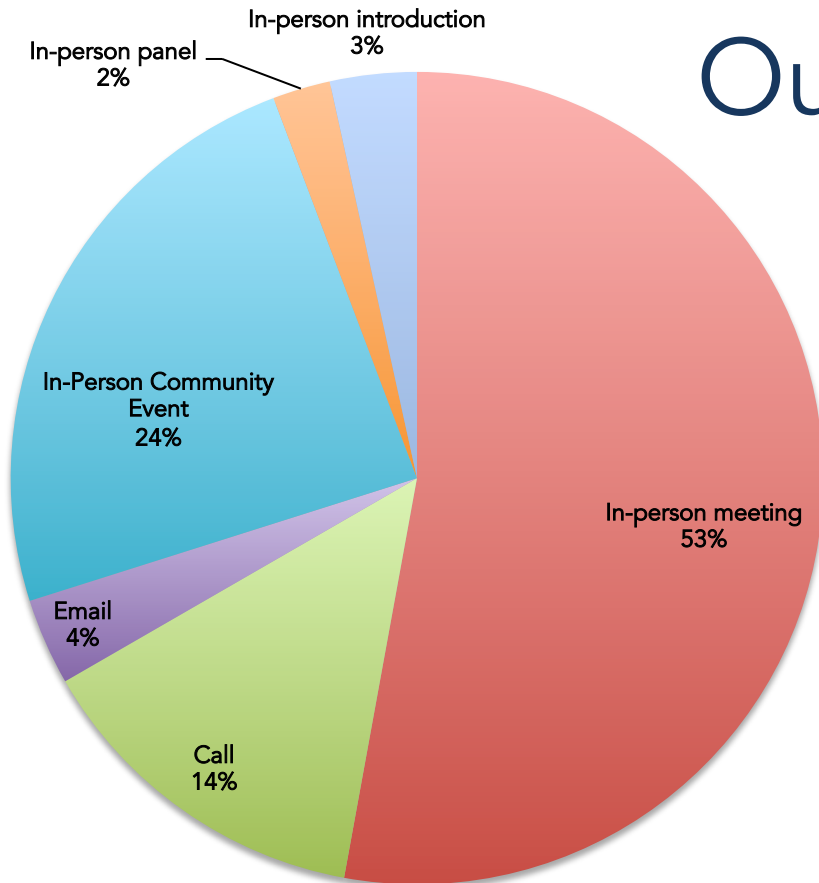


Meetings, Panels, & Events
attended in
Quarter 1 & 2

86

(Note: Quarter 2 will end on January 31, 2017)

Stakeholder Engagement Method



Quarter 1 & 2 Outreach/Engagement Method

More than...

9000+

have been touched by our office
via one of our engagement and
outreach modes.

(Note: Quarter 2 will end on January 31, 2017)

Outreach & Engagement Efforts

Thus far, our office has focused on engaging parents, community organizations, and government agencies to develop an understanding of the needs of each individual community. This focus is in part due to our partnerships with government agencies and large community organizations in our first year of operation. Our second year of operation has focused on ensuring that our engagement addresses ward specific needs. Some examples of these activities include:

- Our ward-based parent empowerment series on the budget process and building/supporting parent organizations
- Updates to our online resource guide and resources
- Our introductory meetings with ward-specific community collaboratives and service providers
- Parent Organization Toolkit
- Language Access

Ongoing Work

Ward 7 Parent Empowerment Summit Series – focused on parent organization and leadership development in addition to advocacy training. Currently, we are working on duplicating these efforts in Ward 5 in partnership with the Ward Five Council on Education, and also in Ward 8 in partnership with the newly reestablished Ward 8 Council on Education.

Safe Passage work – in collaboration with community, school level, and governmental entities.

Student Discipline Policy Analysis and Advocacy Toolkit – partnership with the Center for Court Excellence and the Washington Lawyers Committee.

Behavior Supports workshop planning and task force work – a workshop focused on behavior intervention plans in partnership with the DC Special Education Cooperative, the Bazelon Center, DC Public Schools, Public Charter School Board, Advocates for Justice & Education, and other public education consultants.

Parent leadership training – our office is intimately engaged in getting the DC Parent Leadership Training Institute off the ground in partnership with Multicultural Community Service (MCS) – participation on the advisory committee.

Questions?