

# ASPIRE

## State Initiatives Committee Report

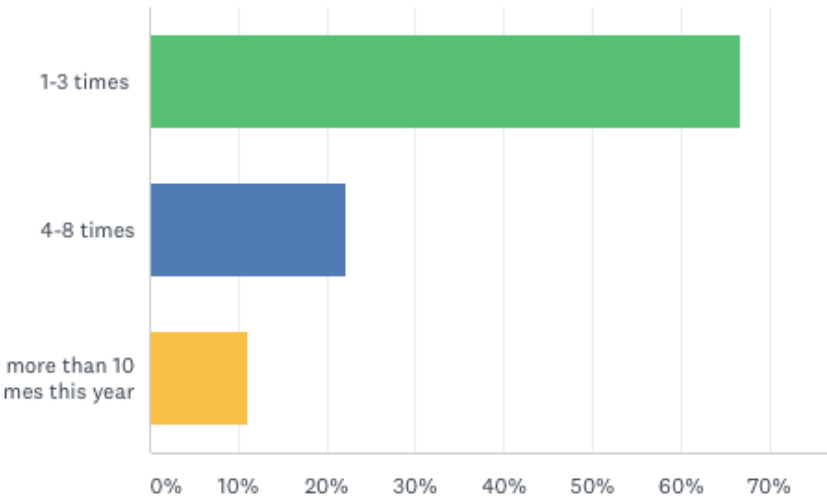
(By Lucia Delgado)

our lives  
begin to end  
the day we become  
S I L E N T  
about the things  
that **matter.**  
-mlk

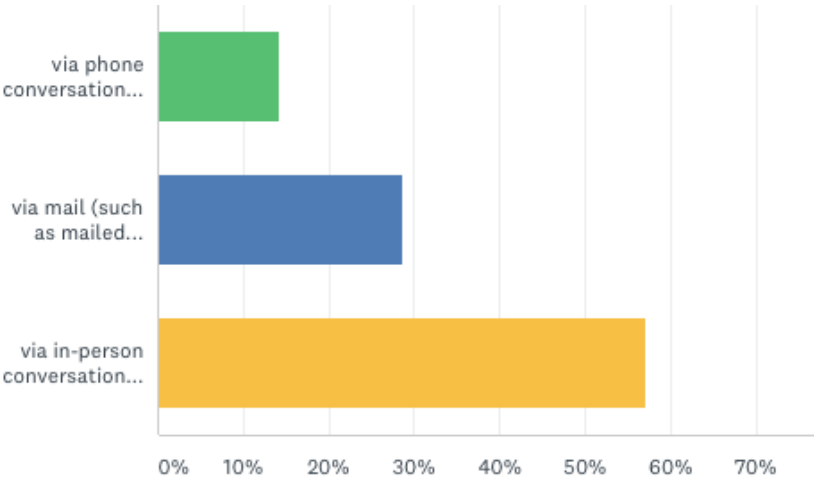
**Advocacy**  
The act of pleading or arguing  
in favor of something, such as  
a cause, policy, or interests or  
active support of an idea or

"Don't Raise Your Voice, Improve your Argument" ~ Anonymous

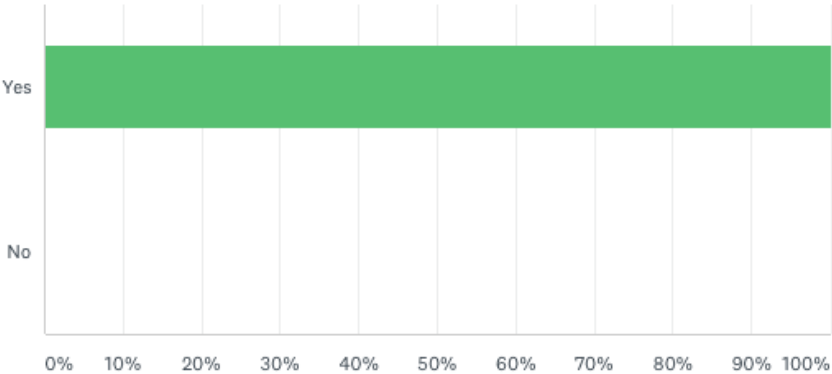
The number of times State Legislators were contacted in 12 months.



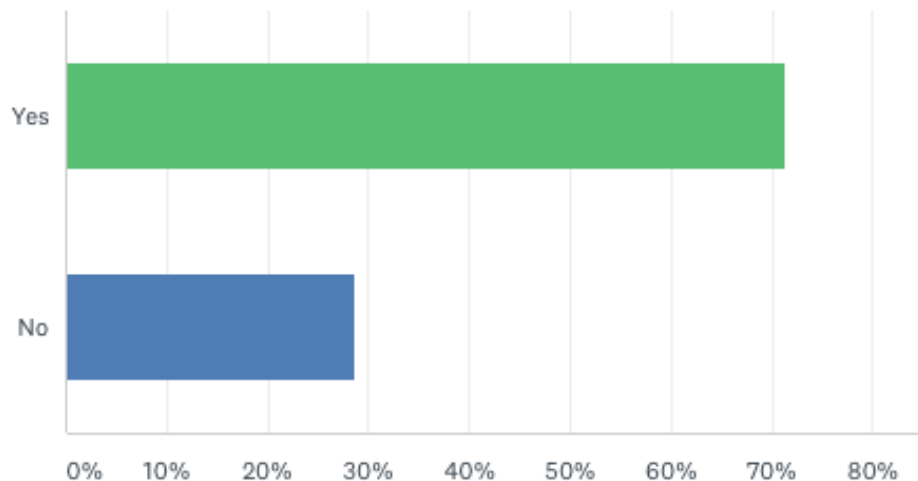
The manner in which we connect with our State legislators:



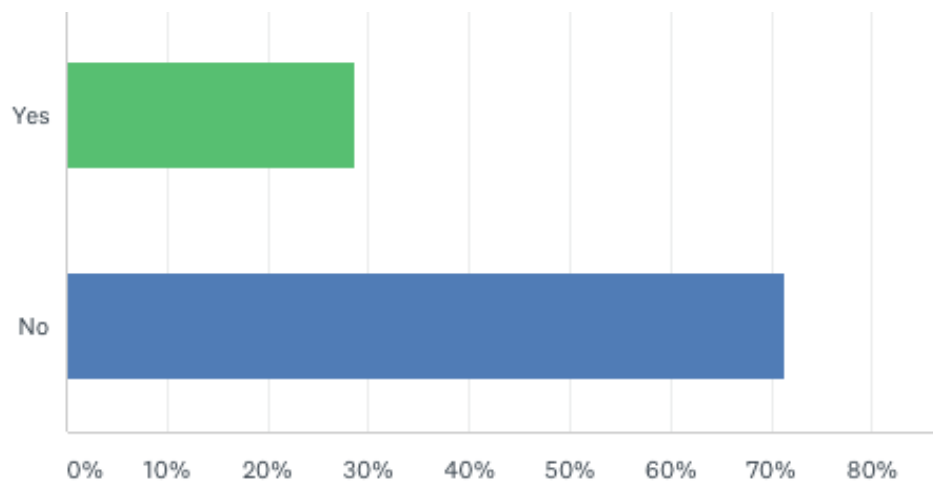
Number of programs that invited State Legislators to TRIO event: 100%



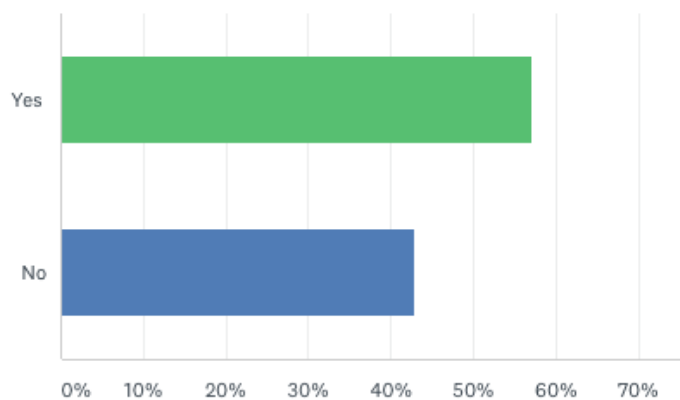
Did you provide your State Legislators with a copy of your state Fact Book:



Do you have a Champion State Legislator (someone who advocates for TRIO at the State level)?

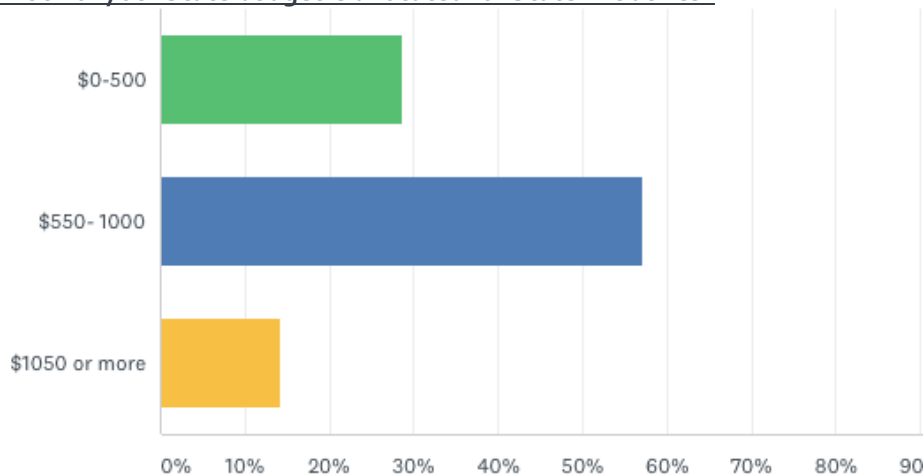


Do you use Paul Spraggins monies to support State Initiatives:



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### How much of your State budget is allocated for State initiatives?



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### General Comments:

[CO] Colorado celebrated TRIO Day at our state capital. For the event, we invited the Speaker of the state house to speak at our welcome before we visited the house and senate chambers. While in the house chambers, representatives read a proclamation declaring the day TRIO Day. After leaving the house floor, the CCA completed a service activity and made sandwiches for individuals experiencing homelessness in the Denver community.

[CO] In spring 2017 we visited the capital with Colorado school counselors for "Day at the Capital" in early February and again in late February for TRIO Day. The State Initiatives chair attended bi-weekly phone meetings with our state lobbyist to stay informed about state policies impacting higher education. Our CCA lobbyist was invited to our CCA conference in April and shared information with attendees about state issues impacting higher education.

[ND][Regarding TRIO Day] Individual institutions that are ND ASPIRE members celebrate TRIO Day but it has not been done by the State Initiative.

[ND] In April 2017 we awarded two ND TRIO Achiever awards at our State Meeting. During the 2017 ND Legislative Session, the State Initiative sent out bi-weekly reports on bills of interest to ND ASPIRE members encouraging them to weigh in with their legislators. In addition, our ND ASPIRE Executive Committee and SI chair met with the Chancellor of the North Dakota University System to explore ways that ND ASPIRE could collaborate with the NDUS for the benefit of TRIO students.

[WY] Bringing a student to policy

[Montana]: [TRIO Day] We have TRIO celebrations all across the state. At FVCC they had a Bike Rodeo where members of the community joined the TRIO SSS students in rehabilitating old bicycles to be donated to the community. Students in Billings held a community service day, students in Butte, Anaconda and Helena traveled to the State Capital to have their declarations read by members of state government as well as being greeted by the Governor.

[Montana]: We have developed a scholarship that our members can apply for to attend professional development events outside of the TRIO/COE community. The NCAN conference for example. Additionally, we have used Spraggins funds to purchase communications software so our state can stay in touch and not have to drive to a central location. We are also in the process of creating a History of Montana ASPIRE where we showcase the 50+ years of TRIO in Montana. This will be a powerful tool to show legislators the impact our programs have had on the state.