

# '15

## Domestic Violence Counts Colorado Summary

On September 16, 2015, 40 out of 44 (91%) identified domestic violence programs in Colorado participated in the 2015 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 40 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

### 919 Victims Served in One Day

482 domestic violence victims (241 children and 241 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

437 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including counseling, legal advocacy, and children's support groups.

This chart shows the percentage of programs that provided the following services on the Census Day.

Services Provided by Local Programs:	Sept. 16
Individual Support or Advocacy	98%
Bilingual Advocacy (services provided by someone who is bilingual)	40%
Court or Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	38%
Group Support or Advocacy	38%
Transportation	35%
Support/Advocacy Related to Housing /Landlord	25%
Support/Advocacy Related to Child Welfare/Protective Services	23%
Legal Representation by an Attorney	8%

### 323 Hotline Calls Answered

Domestic violence hotlines are a lifeline for victims in danger, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources. In the 24-hour survey period, domestic violence programs answered more than 13 hotline calls every hour.

### 407 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 407 individuals in communities across Colorado attended 19 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

### 158 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 79% Were for Housing

Many programs reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services. In addition to housing and emergency shelter, programs reported that of the service requests they could not meet, Rental Assistance/Utilities and Attorney/Legal Representation services were most in demand.

### Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

Across Colorado, 51 individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

- 18% of programs reported government funding cuts.
- 8% of programs reported reductions in private funding.
- 8% of programs reported fewer individual donors.
- 8% of programs reported staffing cuts or reductions.

Across Colorado, 4 staff positions were eliminated in the past year and 33% of these positions were direct services such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help.

“One survivor lives in her abuser’s apartment and works for him. He kept her from continuing her immigration process - she is undocumented and unable to find other work. She tried to leave him but there were no openings in the housing programs in our county. She’s on a voucher waitlist but that will take a year or more. She called our emergency shelter program but there was no space. She must continue to rely upon her abuser.”

— Advocate

