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Domestic Violence Counts Connecticut Summary

On September 16, 2015, 15 out of 15 (100%) identified domestic violence programs in Connecticut participated in the 2015 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 15 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

1,009 Victims Served in One Day

332 domestic violence victims (174 children and 158 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

677 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	93%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	87%
Court or Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	87%
Emergency Shelter	80%
Support/Advocacy Related to Mental Health	67%
Prevention Services and/or Educational Programs	67%
Support/Advocacy to Teen/Young Adult Victims of Dating Abuse	40%
Transitional or Other Housing Program (run by DV program)	33%

229 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 9 hotline calls every hour

473 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 473 individuals in communities across Connecticut attended 23 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

71 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 76% 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, Legal Advocacy/Accompaniment, Attorney/Legal Representation, and Rental Assistance/Utilities services were most in demand.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

Across Connecticut, 10 individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

- 13% of programs reported reductions in private funding.
- 7% of programs reported government funding cuts.
- 7% of programs reported fewer individual donors.

Across Connecticut, 5 staff positions were eliminated in the past year and all of these positions were direct services such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help.

“A survivor and her 4 children are in need of permanent housing. Housing programs are very limited in the area and the waiting lists are very long. This family may have no other choice but to move to a homeless shelter or return to her hometown. Her abuser is actively looking for her and the children and their safety may be compromised.”

— Advocate

