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Domestic Violence Counts Hawaii Summary

On September 16, 2015, 13 out of 19 (68%) identified domestic violence programs in Hawaii participated in the 2015 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 13 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

493 Victims Served in One Day

170 domestic violence victims (80 children and 90 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

323 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	92%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	85%
Emergency Shelter	69%
Support/Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	46%
Transitional or Other Housing Program (run by DV program)	38%
Group Support or Advocacy	38%
Support/Advocacy to Elder Victims of Abuse	31%

131 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 5 hotline calls every hour.

8 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 8 individuals in communities across Hawaii attended 2 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

110 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 2% 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, Attorney/Legal Representation, and Legal Advocacy/ Accompaniment services were most in demand.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

Across Hawaii, 18 individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

- 46% of programs reported government funding cuts.
- 15% of programs reported fewer individual donors.
- 15% of programs reported reductions in private funding.
- 15% of programs reported staffing cuts or reductions.

Across Hawaii, 9 staff positions were eliminated in the past year and most (90%) of these positions were direct services such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help.

“The services we are able to provide our survivors provide them with a sense of safety, a sense of hope, and the idea that they can and will survive.”

— Advocate

