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Domestic Violence Counts Idaho Summary

On September 16, 2015, 19 out of 21 (90%) identified domestic violence programs in Idaho participated in the 2015 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 19 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

593 Victims Served in One Day

215 domestic violence victims (106 children and 109 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

378 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 |
|--|----------|
| Children's Support or Advocacy | 79% |
| Rural Outreach | 42% |
| Transportation | 32% |
| Support/Advocacy to Teen/Young Adult Victims of Dating Abuse | 26% |
| Bilingual Advocacy (services provided by someone who is bilingual) | 26% |
| Support/Advocacy Related to Technology Use (Cyberstalking, etc.) | 21% |

141 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.

135 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 135 individuals in communities across Idaho attended 9 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

206 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 64% 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, Transportation/Gas and Cash Assistance/Financial Assistance services were most in demand.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

Across Idaho, 25 individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

- 26% of programs reported government funding cuts.
- 11% of programs reported staffing cuts or reductions.
- 11% of programs reported reductions in private funding.
- 5% of programs reported fewer individual donors.

Across Idaho, 17 staff positions were eliminated in the past year and most (75%) of these positions were direct services such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help.

"Our counties are so rural and a lot of the low-income housing is full so it takes a very long time to get into. Our clients struggle with housing, medical insurance, and are struggling with jobs. They also struggle with legal services and many of them cannot afford an attorney or pay for counseling."

— Advocate