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Domestic Violence Counts New Hampshire Summary

On September 16, 2015, 13 out of 13 (100%) identified domestic violence programs in New Hampshire 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.

313 Victims Served in One Day

123 domestic violence victims (58 children and 65 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

190 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 | 92% |
| Court or Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy | 77% |
| Support/Advocacy Related to Housing/Landlord | 62% |
| Transportation | 46% |
| Support/Advocacy Related to Mental Health | 46% |
| Financial Literacy/Budgeting | 23% |
| Support/Advocacy to Elder Victims of Abuse | 23% |
| Support/Advocacy to Victims of Trafficking | 8% |

74 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 3 hotline calls every hour.

427 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 427 individuals in communities across New Hampshire attended 10 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

54 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 91% 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 New Hampshire, 34 individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

- 46% of programs reported staffing cuts or reductions.
- 31% of programs reported government funding cuts.
- 23% of programs reported reductions in private funding.
- 23% of programs reported fewer individual donations.

Across New Hampshire, 14 staff positions were eliminated in the past year and most (71%) of these positions were direct services such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help.

“We were unable to shelter a woman and her three children on Census Day due to the capacity of our shelter. This woman struggled to find an available shelter in the state of New Hampshire. We wanted to help out and put them in a hotel until we were able to find a safe place for them to stay so they would not have to return to the home their abuser lived in, however due to financial limitations, our agency was not able to accommodate this request. The mother and her children were all scared of the possibility they would not find a place to stay and we could only make referrals to other area domestic violence shelters and homeless shelters.”

— Advocate

