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Domestic Violence Counts Oklahoma Summary

On September 16, 2015, 31 out of 31 (100%) identified domestic violence programs in Oklahoma participated in the 2015 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 31 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

1,041 Victims Served in One Day

572 domestic violence victims (272 children and 300 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

469 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
Support/Advocacy Related to Child Welfare/Protective Services	26%
Therapy/Counseling for Children or Youth (by a licensed practitioner)	23%
Legal Representation by an Attorney	16%
Rural Outreach	16%
Financial Literacy/Budgeting	13%

332 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.

163 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 163 individuals in communities across Oklahoma attended 18 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

339 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 19% 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, Attorney/Legal Representation and Legal Advocacy/Accompaniment services were most in demand.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

Across Oklahoma, 45 individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

- 16% of programs reported fewer individual donations.
- 13% of programs reported government funding cuts.
- 13% of programs reported reductions in private funding.
- 10% of programs reported staffing cuts or reductions.

Across Oklahoma, 20 staff positions were eliminated in the past year and most (82%) of these positions were direct services such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help.

"A victim and her two children were all being victimized by the father who was on meth and was chasing all of them with an axe. The mother called the police and they did not assist her and instructed him to go lay down due to he lived there as well. They lived in fear for the remainder of the night and escaped to emergency shelter. Since being in shelter, the children have been in counseling, changed schools successfully and she has been approved for housing and obtained a job within the first week of being in shelter."

— Advocate

