

'15

Domestic Violence Counts Tennessee Summary

On September 16, 2015, 32 out of 32 (100%) identified domestic violence programs in Tennessee participated in the 2015 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 32 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

858 Victims Served in One Day

525 domestic violence victims (237 children and 288 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

333 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	100%
Emergency Shelter	97%
Children's Support or Advocacy	91%
Transportation	66%
Court or Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	56%
Transitional or Other Housing Program (run by DV program)	50%
Support/Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	44%
Support/Advocacy Related to Housing /Landlord	31%

306 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 12 hotline calls every hour.

682 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 682 individuals in communities across Tennessee attended 27 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

60 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 55% 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, Cash Assistance/Financial Assistance and Attorney/Legal Representation services were most in demand.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

Across Tennessee, 36 individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

- 19% of programs reported reductions in private funding.
- 16% of programs reported fewer individual donations.
- 9% of programs reported government funding cuts.
- 6% of programs reported staffing cuts or reductions.

Across Tennessee, 11 staff positions were eliminated in the past year and most (89%) of these positions were direct services such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help.

"A mother with five children escaped her abuser and needed shelter. Unfortunately, we did not have room in our shelter and all other shelters in the area were full. We were able to provide her with a hotel voucher to give her a place to stay until space in a shelter became available."

— Advocate