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Domestic Violence Counts Utah Summary

On September 16, 2015, 17 out of 17 (100%) identified domestic violence programs in Utah participated in the 2015 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 17 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

874 Victims Served in One Day

636 domestic violence victims (383 children and 253 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

238 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
Emergency Shelter	94%
Children's Support or Advocacy	94%
Bilingual Advocacy (services provided by someone who is bilingual)	59%
Support/Advocacy Related to Mental Health	59%
Transitional or Other Housing Program (run by DV program)	53%

169 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 7 hotline calls every hour.

193 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 193 individuals in communities across Utah attended 10 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

133 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 82% 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 Cash Assistance/Financial Assistance services were most in demand.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

Across Utah, 22 individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

- 18% of programs reported government funding cuts.
- 18% of programs reported reductions in private funding.
- 18% of programs reported staffing cuts or reductions.
- 12% of programs reported fewer individual donations.

Across Utah, 13 staff positions were eliminated in the past year and most (60%) of these positions were direct services such as shelter or legal advocates, so there were fewer advocates to answer calls for help.

"Our agency lost funding for our transitional housing program. The loss of this funding forces survivors to stay in shelter causing these families to remain homeless. Safe, stable, affordable housing is a critical need for those fleeing domestic violence."

— Advocate

