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Domestic Violence Counts The Virgin Islands Summary

On September 16, 2015, 2 out of 2 (100%) identified domestic violence programs in the Virgin Islands participated in the 2015 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 2 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

76 Victims Served in One Day

31 domestic violence victims (17 children and 14 adults) found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

45 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%
Children's Support or Advocacy	100%
Emergency Shelter	100%
Bilingual Advocacy (services provided by someone who is bilingual)	100%
Support/Advocacy Related to Mental Health	100%
Support/Advocacy to Teen/Young Adult Victims of Dating Abuse	100%
Transportation	50%
Support/Advocacy Related to Child Welfare/Protective Services	50%

23 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 23 hotline calls.

20 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day, of Which 15% 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 Cash Assistance/Financial Assistance services were most in demand.

Cause of Unmet Requests for Help

Across the Virgin Islands, 2 individual services at local programs were reduced or eliminated in the past year.

- 100% of programs reported government funding cuts.
- 100% of programs reported reductions in private funding.
- 50% of programs reported fewer individual donations.

"A woman who was recently forced to run for her life was in court seeking a permanent restraining order. During the hearing, she indicated that she was staying at her cousin's house with her six children. She was so scared of the perpetrator, that she told the judge that they were more comfortable in the two-bedroom home rather than the larger apartment where her perpetrator resided. The court advocate clarified to the judge that her name was on the lease and technically, her live-in boyfriend had no rights to occupy the apartment. Therefore, the judge had more information on which to base his decisions."

— Advocate