

NNEDV

19th Annual **Domestic Violence Counts Report**

NATIONAL NETWORK TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



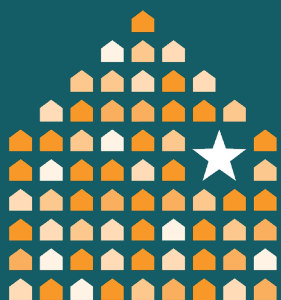
24-HOUR SURVEY
of Domestic Violence
Shelters and Services

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We are grateful for the advocates at the 1,741 programs that participated in this national count of local domestic violence services.

Thank you for sharing information about your lifesaving work and for shining a light on survivors' and advocates' urgent needs.



NNEDV

NATIONAL NETWORK
TO END DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE



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✖ “Survivors are struggling to find housing, feed their children, and access reliable transportation and childcare so they can work. It is critical to fully meet their needs so they can get assistance and stay out of violent relationships. Domestic violence is dangerous and deadly. Please increase funding to local programs so we can continue to provide critical services and save lives.” - Virginia advocate

The 19th Annual Domestic Violence Counts Report is made possible by:



In Just One Day...

On September 4, 2024, more than 79,000 domestic violence victims and survivors across the country received services from local programs. On that day, the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) conducted our 19th Annual Domestic Violence Counts Survey, a one-day, unduplicated count of domestic violence services requested and received across the United States.

Of the 2,015 domestic violence programs and shelters identified¹ nationwide, 1,741 programs (86%) in all fifty states, the District of Columbia, and the territories of Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands participated. For nineteen years, we have published this data to tell stories of survival and to inform and educate the public and policymakers at all levels of government about the needs of survivors, their children, and the advocates that serve them as they seek safety.

Domestic Violence Counts has been the premier trusted source of data on the lifesaving services domestic violence advocates provide to survivors. Every year, the Domestic Violence Counts Report shares stories of both hope and heartbreak — from advocates connecting domestic violence survivors and their children with lifesaving assistance, to programs being forced to turn away survivors who urgently need help.²

Despite their tireless efforts, advocates and programs simply do not have enough resources.

More resources are required at the federal, tribal, state, territorial, and local levels. The lack of adequate resources and funding for programs that support victims of domestic violence has devastating consequences. It leaves survivors with no real options, forcing many to stay in abusive situations or risk homelessness. Tragically, countless others pay the ultimate price, as domestic violence remains a leading cause of premature death for women in the United States.³

Additional resources must be provided, system-wide responses must be improved, and barriers to safety and justice must be eliminated to ensure that survivors are not left without resources and that no program is ever forced to turn away survivors or close their doors when faced with a decrease in funding.



✘ **“Our agency desperately needs additional funding to meet survivors’ needs. Each year, we have to fight for federal funding. The community costs of not providing funding include increased fatalities, lifetime disabilities, police expenditures, lost work time, greater emergency room use, and long-term mental and physical health consequences due to violence contributing to increased health care costs. Survivors are constituents and deserve better.” - California advocate**

¹ For a program to qualify for participation in the Domestic Violence Counts Survey, one of its primary purposes must be the provision of domestic violence services.

² Quotes have been edited for length and to protect victims’ and survivors’ anonymity.

³ Campbell et al. (2003). [Risk Factors for Femicide in Abusive Relationships: Results from a Multisite Case Control Study](#).



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNTS REPORT NATIONAL SUMMARY

On September 4, 2024, **1,741** out of **2,015 (86%)** identified domestic violence programs in the United States participated in a national count of domestic violence services conducted by the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV). During the 24-hour survey period, participating programs served **79,088 victims**, did not have enough resources to meet **14,095 requests for help**, and shared the following additional information.

79,088 Victims Served

50,188 adults and children found refuge in emergency shelters, transitional housing, hotels, motels, or other housing provided by local programs.

28,900 adults and children received non-residential supportive services like transportation, court accompaniment, counseling, and more.

and more. Local programs' hotlines received **22,900** contacts; state- and territory-wide hotlines received **235** contacts; the National Domestic Violence Hotline received **2,966** contacts; and NNEDV's WomensLaw Email Hotline received **8** contacts.

This hotline contact volume represents an average of nearly **1,088** contacts every hour of the survey day, or more than **18** contacts every minute.

Table 1: Top Services Provided on 9/4/24	% of Programs Providing Services
Emergency Shelter	68%
Transportation	49%
Court Accompaniment or Legal Support	48%
Children's Support	45%
Bilingual Support	43%
Support Related to Housing/Landlord	41%
Support Related to Mental Health	41%
Therapy/Counseling for Adults	41%
Support Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	38%
Transitional or Other Housing (run by DV program)	37%

16,464 People Educated

Programs provided **651** educational sessions and trainings to **16,464** members of the public, addressing topics like domestic violence prevention and early intervention. Community education is essential to raising awareness about domestic violence and promoting available resources.

14,095 Unmet Requests for Services

Victims made **14,095** requests for services that programs could not provide because they lacked sufficient resources, funding, and/or staffing to meet these needs. The majority of these unmet requests (**60%**) were for emergency shelter, hotels, motels, transitional housing, and other housing.

Survivors and their children need a safe place to stay as they escape abuse and rebuild their lives. Programs need increased funding to provide shelter, housing, safety planning, and other services to all survivors seeking help while also working toward preventing violence in their communities.

26,109 Hotline Contacts Received

Domestic violence hotlines are lifelines for victims in danger, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources via phone, chat, text, email,

✂ **"Our organization experienced a 25% cut in Victims of Crime Act and Violence Against Women Act funding, and we expect additional cuts in the next grant cycle. Meanwhile, the number of victims we serve has increased by 18%. We cannot continue to do more with less funding. It is time that domestic violence services are seen as a priority and funded properly." - Georgia advocate**

"Being able to bring our dog to shelter is what made me decide to finally leave. It relieved stress and helped us settle in because we knew he was safe with us."

- SURVIVOR (as told to an Oklahoma advocate)





REAL STORIES

"If it weren't for your support, I wouldn't have had the strength or courage to call law enforcement, file for a protective order, and end decades of abuse."

- **Survivor** (as told to a Minnesota advocate)

"Ongoing funding cuts have compromised our ability to hire staff, drastically diminished our available services, and limited our resources for survivors to access financial assistance. This weakens their plans to stay safe from the violence they experienced."

- **South Dakota advocate**

Domestic Violence Programs Provide Refuge in Times of Crisis

Abusers intentionally work to build and maintain power and control over their partners, often making it difficult or even dangerous for victims to escape and access the resources they need. All programs must have adequate funding and resources to meet the needs of every survivor who reaches out.

Table 2: Victims Served on 9/4/24	Emergency Shelter	Transitional or Other Housing	Hotel/Motel	Non-Residential Supportive Services	Total
Adults	12,122	11,330	888	23,929	48,269
Children	11,831	13,258	759	4,971	30,819
Total	23,953	24,588	1,647	28,900	79,088

Answering the Call

Domestic violence hotlines are often the first point of contact for survivors seeking help. On September 4, 2024, local, state, territorial, and national domestic violence hotlines received 26,109 contacts, averaging nearly 1,088 contacts per hour or more than 18 contacts per minute.

Shelter and Housing Provide Safety and Pathways to Stability

Access to safe, affordable housing is often a survivor's most critical immediate need. However, factors like years-long waitlists, a lack of investment in affordable options, and imperfect housing histories caused by the abuse can create overwhelming barriers.

Many domestic violence programs offer emergency shelter, hotel or motel stays, transitional housing, rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, and other affordable housing options to help survivors find a safe home. Overcoming barriers and addressing survivors' housing needs require intentional, sustained partnerships and substantial investments in affordable housing at the federal, tribal, state, territorial, and local levels.

Domestic violence advocates work hard to help survivors navigate these and other housing challenges. An Indiana advocate shared: "A client in our housing program applied for a rental she felt would be perfect for her and her children. I spoke with the property manager and explained our program and the types of support we provide. They said they would be happy to work with the client since she has our program's support."

Opening the Door

On September 4, 2024: Adult and child victims found refuge in local programs' emergency shelters (23,953 victims), transitional or other housing programs (24,588 victims), and hotel and motel stays paid for by local programs (1,647 victims). Of participating programs, 68% provided emergency shelter, 37% provided transitional or other housing services, and 16% provided hotel or motel stays.

A Colorado advocate shared: "An unemployed and pregnant survivor moved into our emergency shelter when she had nowhere else to turn. She worked

closely with her advocate and transitioned into an apartment through our rapid rehousing program. She told us: ‘My kids and I are thriving today. We are as happy and healthy as can be. I don’t think I ever got to share with you how thankful I am for your help and support.’”

Comprehensive and Compassionate Support

Beyond providing a safe physical space to stay, many domestic violence programs offer a wide range of non-residential supportive services like transportation to appointments, help with landlords, legal support through divorce and custody, counseling, and more. Advocates are uniquely equipped to provide trauma-informed services to help survivors rebuild after abuse.

An advocate in Hawai’i shared: “Due to limited funds, our shelters must make difficult decisions, like reducing or eliminating bilingual case managers who help survivors overcome language barriers and receive proper care. Without these positions, survivors struggle to access resources, and their sense of isolation and vulnerability may become exacerbated. Adequate funding is essential to maintain comprehensive services.”

A District of Columbia advocate shared: “A Deaf survivor struggled to seek legal support due to anxiety, and a DeafBlind survivor faced communication barriers because many lawyers don’t understand Deaf culture. Our advocate worked tirelessly to support them both, but without addressing these issues, many survivors will remain unable to access the legal assistance they deserve.”

Helping Survivors Heal

On September 4, 2024: Programs provided 28,900 people with non-residential supportive services.

Table 3: Top Non-Residential Supportive Services Provided on 9/4/24	% of Programs Providing Services
Transportation	49%
Court Accompaniment or Legal Support	48%
Children’s Support	45%
Bilingual Support	43%
Support Related to Housing/Landlord	41%

Table 3 Continued	
Support Related to Mental Health	41%
Therapy/Counseling for Adults	41%
Support Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	38%

From an advocate in New Hampshire: “During the survey day, a survivor received her final protective order and was relieved and grateful. She said: ‘I feel free. Today, I can walk out the front door, I can walk out the back door, I can go to work, and I don’t have to fear for my safety. I’m even excited to pay bills! For over ten years, I never knew how freedom felt.’”

Ending Violence Starts with Community Education

In addition to providing crisis intervention for victims, domestic violence advocates understand the importance of educating communities, raising awareness, and educating young people to prevent abuse before it happens.

Programs also educate community stakeholders like first responders, medical professionals, social service employees, attorneys, and judges, helping to ensure that survivors receive a trauma-informed response at every step of their journey to safety.

A Montana advocate said: “Our work touches so many other aspects of society. It is essential to educate community partners. Building those relationships means that, any time someone reaches out for help, they can find it. Survivors face so many barriers, but education engenders empathy. Suddenly, fees are waived, applications are approved, extensions are granted, and independence is possible.”

Forging Connections and Expanding Knowledge

On September 4, 2024: Advocates provided 651 educational sessions and trainings to 16,464 members of the public to expand awareness, increase knowledge about available resources, and build community support for victims and survivors.

An advocate in Massachusetts shared: “A health care provider referred a patient to us after the patient disclosed abuse during a screening. The provider said she felt more confident screening the patient because of a recent training from our organization.



REAL STORIES

“With rural grants, we provided a survivor with a phone to let her family know she was okay. She had been unable to talk with them for weeks due to her abuser’s control.

We also helped with safety plans and wraparound services to begin her transition to safety and independence.”

- **North Dakota**
advocate

“We have the state’s largest shelter and anticipate a 43% funding reduction in 2025-2026. This will reduce our services drastically and impact the number of survivors we can assist.”

- **Tennessee**
advocate

The provider relayed that she knew it was important to let the patient drive the process and that she was glad to make this notable shift in practice.”

Rural Programs Face Additional Challenges

As of the 2020 United States Census, approximately 20% of the country’s population lives in a rural area.⁴ Domestic violence survivors living in rural places often face specific challenges in escaping abuse and accessing resources. An abuser may wield more influence in a smaller community, affordable housing options may be nonexistent, or the nearest shelter may be hours away.

A West Virginia advocate shared: “Every issue in Appalachia is interwoven with domestic violence. Isolation is easy in the geographically challenging and poverty-ravaged communities we serve. Investing in domestic violence services could solve nearly every social ill, from preventing deaths to planting a seed of security in a child now able to live in a safe environment.”

Domestic violence programs serving rural communities face commensurate challenges. They may lack funding to meet survivors’ transportation needs, serve populations that are made vulnerable to poverty and substance abuse, or struggle to hire enough advocates to serve enormous service areas. Rural programs and the survivors they support deserve funding to meet these and other specific challenges.

An advocate in Missouri shared: “Our rural county is one of the poorest in the state. There are food and job deserts that make it hard to survive, and when you add violence, it deepens that gap. Every time funding is cut, we make decisions about getting winter clothes for kids in shelter or helping those struggling to pay rent. We have had to cut our staff in half to get through budget cuts, which reduces the services we provide. The support we receive from grant funds saves lives.”

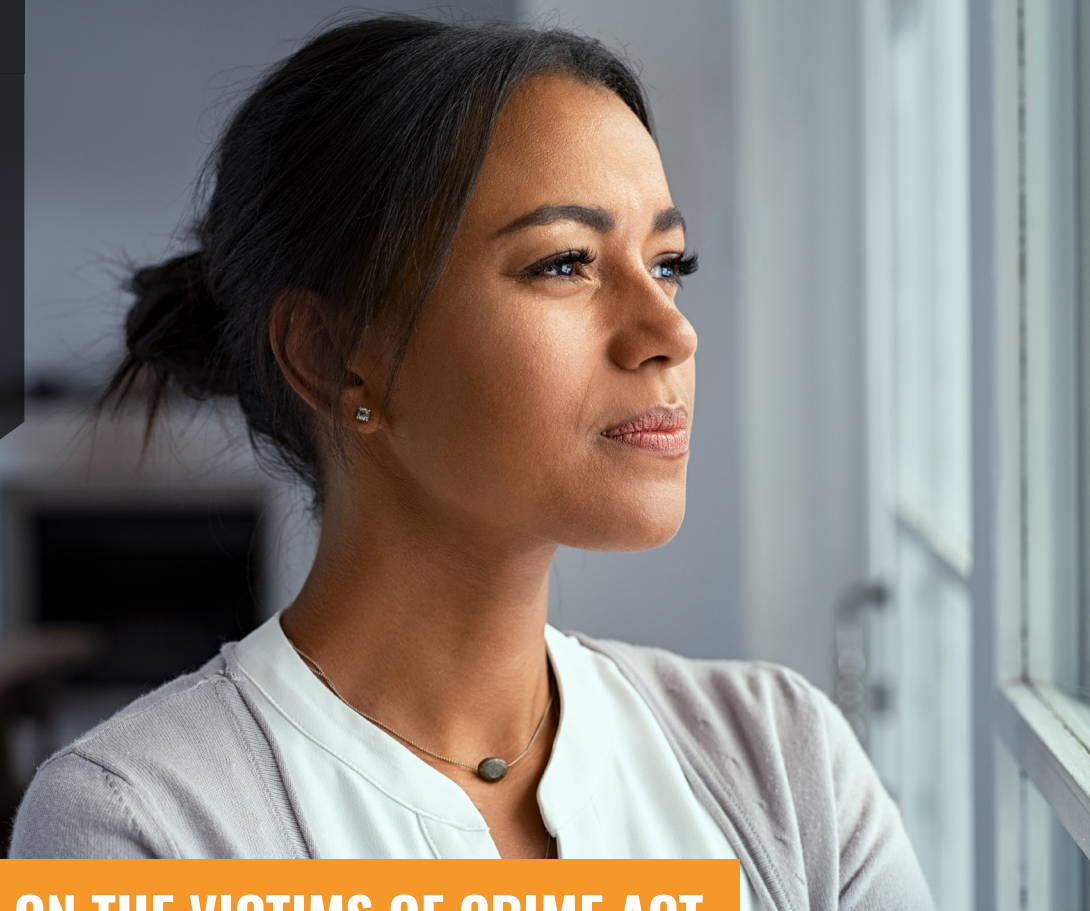


⁴ U.S. Census Bureau (2022). [Nation's Urban and Rural Populations Shift Following 2020 Census](#).

"What was once over a \$100 million Victims of Crime Act budget across North Carolina domestic violence programs is now a mere \$3 million.

We have already laid off 12% of our workforce and face the difficult reality that we will likely have to cut programs and positions again. It is a disservice to survivors."

**- NORTH CAROLINA
ADVOCATE**



SPOTLIGHT ON THE VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT

Proposed VOCA Cuts Will Jeopardize Local Programs

The Crime Victims Fund (CVF) was created by Congress in 1984 to provide Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grants to state, territorial, and local programs that assist crime victims. CVF funding is non-taxpayer money generated by fines and penalties from federal prosecutions and non-prosecution and deferred prosecution agreements.


VOCA funds lifesaving services to over six million victims of all types of crimes annually through almost 6,500 direct service organizations, including many of the 1,741 participating DV Counts programs.

Deposits to the CVF have shrunk considerably in recent years, and VOCA-funded programs have faced massive cuts. **The DV Counts survey day took place as programs braced for a proposed 40% cut (\$700 million) in fiscal year 2024.**

"The decrease in Victims of Crime Act funds to our state has created significant hardship. If this continues, our organization will have to keep reducing positions and programming with no end in sight. Survivors are navigating some very high-risk situations. Without the assistance of our advocates, the domestic violence homicide statistics in Maine will skyrocket."
- Maine advocate

"Victims of Crime Act funding continues to decrease dramatically. We are continuing to catch up with decreased federal funding while needing to meet an increased need for our services. We have experienced a 35% increase of clients over the past three years."
- Wyoming advocate

"Ongoing Victims of Crime Act and other federal funding cuts have made it difficult to serve all survivors in need. We are often left making heartbreaking and difficult decisions about who we can assist. Survivors deserve access to shelter, reasonably priced housing, and other trauma-informed services. With more funding, we could help more survivors."
- Ohio advocate



"A client and her child had been staying in motels to escape their abuser after he threatened to kill them. She came to our agency and was very grateful that we had bed space for them to remain safe."

**- NEVADA
ADVOCATE**



REAL STORIES

“A hospitalized survivor needed emergency shelter, but we were completely full and could only provide hotel accommodations for a few days. The abuser is attempting to locate her, and she is terrified that he will succeed.”

- Delaware advocate

“Our Victims of Crime Act funding was reduced by 50% (about \$434,000). These funds are vital for providing services to crime victims. It’s critical to recover these resources for lifesaving victim support.”

- Utah advocate

Insufficient Resources Lead to Devastating Unmet Needs

Domestic violence programs are lifelines for survivors. It’s unthinkable that any program would ever have to turn away a survivor in need. However, many programs struggle to maintain stable funding, leaving them no choice but to cut services, lay off staff, and leave survivors without the support that can save their lives.

In addition to the rising cost of basic needs required to keep shelters running, programs face constant actual and threatened funding cuts at every level. An Alabama advocate shared: “We are operating with less funding and fewer resources and staff. When victims take the difficult step to reach out for help, many are in life-threatening situations and must be able to find immediate safety and support. Stable funding is now more essential than ever to ensure that the programs are able to keep lights on, answer crisis calls, and provide essential services for victims.”

Unanswered Requests for Help

On September 4, 2024: Tragically, programs did not have the resources to meet 14,095 requests for services.

Table 4: Unmet Requests on 9/4/24	Emergency Shelter (29%)	Transitional or Other Housing (29%)	Hotel/Motel (2%)	Non-Residential Supportive Services (40%)	Total
Adults	2,499	2,142	221	4,240	9,102
Children	1,515	1,955	127	1,396	4,993
Total	4,014	4,097	348	5,636	14,095

Safe Housing is Difficult for Survivors to Obtain

Without a safe place to live, many survivors are unable to leave abusers, find or maintain a job, enroll their children in school, and build stable lives that allow them to heal. A lack of affordable housing across the country means that advocates often struggle to help survivors meet these needs.

On September 4, 2024, the majority of survivors’ unmet requests (60%) were for emergency shelter, hotels, motels, transitional housing, and other housing. These 8,459 unmet requests mean that survivors and their children were left without a safe place to stay.

An Alaska advocate shared: “The risk of being unhoused in one of the harshest climates in the country presents a huge barrier to escaping domestic violence. Ideally, every participant would have a warm, safe place to sleep while they go through the arduous process of escaping abuse and securing permanent housing. Unfortunately, that’s not the reality. Increased funding would make it possible for our organization to empower more survivors to leave their abusers knowing they would have a safe place to lay their head that night.”

Without safe, affordable housing, many survivors stay temporarily in shelters, hotels, or motels for long stretches of time, which can delay their healing and prevent shelters from offering space to other survivors in need. While many

✂️ **“Ongoing funding cuts have directly affected our ability to provide essential services. We have reduced programs, limited staffing, and scaled back outreach. Many needs go unmet, leaving vulnerable populations without crucial support. We need sustainable funding to ensure that we can continue to serve those who rely on us.” - Vermont advocate**

programs offer transitional housing, short-term rental assistance, and other options to bridge gaps, these in-demand programs are often at capacity with long waitlists.

Advocates work hard to connect survivors with housing. In Florida, an advocate reported: “Our new housing department has been working diligently with participants to ensure they are housed upon exiting shelter. On the survey day, our first participant received the key to her own apartment for herself and her child. She shared that, her whole life, she has never lived in a home without abuse.”

Even when survivors secure housing, they often continue to rely on services from programs to maintain stability. An advocate in Kansas shared: “During their time in shelter, one survivor was able to focus on safety, healing, and rebuilding. Our advocate helped them apply for housing and jobs and provided legal help, including connecting them with an attorney at no cost to assist with divorce and expungement. Today, they are living independently and thriving, while we continue to offer ongoing support.”

Loss of Housing Services

364 programs reported reducing or eliminating housing services due to staffing or funding in the past 12 months.

Table 5: Housing Services Reduced or Eliminated due to Staffing/Funding in Past 12 Months	# of Programs Reducing or Eliminating
Hotel/Motel Stay	185
Transitional or Other Housing (run by DV program)	101
Emergency Shelter	78

Staffing Challenges Exacerbate Unmet Needs

Most domestic violence programs depend on local, state, territorial, and federal government grants, along with individual and corporate donations, to keep their doors open. With budget cuts constantly

looming, programs often can't provide staff with competitive wages and benefits, leading to high turnover in positions already prone to burnout and vicarious trauma.

An advocate in Louisiana reported: “Funding cuts have significantly impacted our agency. We’ve faced challenges maintaining shelter, housing assistance, and counseling, which limits our capacity to respond to growing demands. Our staff is stretched thinner than ever, affecting the quality of care we can offer. Ultimately, these cuts hinder our mission to empower survivors and help them rebuild their lives.”

Lack of Direct Cash Assistance Creates Barriers

The process of escaping abuse is often extremely expensive. In addition to housing and legal processes, many survivors need money for day-to-day expenses, like gas to drive to an appointment or school supplies for their children. Many survivors experience financial abuse, leaving them with very little disposable income to pay for a long list of needs.

Direct cash assistance (sometimes called flexible funding) helps organizations quickly and easily distribute cash and gift cards to survivors. These low-barrier funds typically don't require survivors to justify their needs or repay the money. Instead, programs trust that survivors know their most immediate concerns and will use the funds to meet them.

Unfortunately, many programs do not have nearly enough funding to provide this valuable assistance. A Texas advocate shared: “We saw a decrease in funds to provide direct cash assistance to survivors. We often prioritize staff, supplies, and operations, leaving a smaller budget for creative, client-centered needs like car repairs and food assistance. We should not have to choose between caring for our staff, keeping doors open, and supporting survivors' needs.”

✖ **“Income continues to decline while costs continue to increase. Without sufficient funding, more lives will be irreparably harmed or lost. Our organization offers little transportation, food, clothing, and basic needs because there isn’t a budget for it. Therapy is where healing happens, but we can’t afford therapists. We are failing our community despite our best efforts.” - New Mexico advocate**

Loss of Direct Cash Assistance

133 programs reported reducing or eliminating direct cash assistance due to staffing or funding in the past 12 months.

Table 6: Direct Cash Assistance Reduced or Eliminated due to Staffing/Funding in Past 12 Months	# of Programs Reducing or Eliminating
Direct Cash Assistance	133

Lack of Transportation May Further Victimize

Having safe and affordable transportation options, like personal vehicles, public transit, rideshare services, and transportation provided by local programs, can help survivors access services and appointments, take their children to school, and begin to regain their independence. For survivors who prefer to move away from an abuser or closer to supportive family and friends, being able to purchase a bus, train, or plane ticket can make all the difference for their safety.

However, securing transportation is often complicated. Abusers may limit a survivor’s access to a vehicle, rural areas may lack sufficient public transit and rideshare options, and programs may not have enough staff or funding to get survivors where they need to go. More expensive long-distance travel is often out of the question for programs grappling with tighter and tighter budgets each year.

An Iowa advocate shared: “We assisted a family with transportation to the local food pantry. They are trying to have a new beginning, free of violence, and they have been searching for jobs. They needed assistance with food but didn’t have a vehicle. We were one of their only supports then and still today. They were beyond grateful for our help.”

Loss of Transportation Services

126 programs reported reducing or eliminating transportation services due to staffing or funding in the past 12 months.

Table 7: Transportation Services Reduced or Eliminated due to Staffing/Funding in Past 12 Months	# of Programs Reducing or Eliminating
Transportation	126

Lack of Therapy Services Delays Survivors’ Healing

Domestic violence includes a wide array of emotional and psychological manipulation, with abusers choosing to destroy a partner’s self-esteem to keep them feeling powerless and trapped in the relationship. The impacts can be devastating, and survivors of all ages deserve professional support to navigate their trauma and rebuild their resilience.

When local programs can provide counseling and therapy services, including one-on-one and group sessions, survivors can heal, build community, and develop essential tools. However, hiring counselors and therapists can be cost-prohibitive for many programs, with many professionals unable to support themselves with the low wages or few hours that a program’s budget can accommodate.

A Kentucky advocate shared: “Our agency previously offered therapy, but we no longer have sufficient funding to sustain specialized positions. On the survey day, a resident requested therapy for her child, who was present during the abuse. Since we could not offer these services, the child went three months without treatment before an alternate placement was secured.”

Loss of Therapy Services

212 programs reported reducing or eliminating therapy or counseling for adults and children due to staffing or funding in the past 12 months.

Table 8: Therapy Services Reduced or Eliminated due to Staffing/Funding in Past 12 Months	# of Programs Reducing or Eliminating
Therapy/Counseling for Adults	115
Therapy/Counseling for Children or Youth	97

✖ REAL STORIES



"While we were able to turn to our community for help filling a small gap, there is no way even the most generous community can fill the Victims of Crime Act hole. We will have to cut services to safeguard crisis response for those most in danger. We don't change hearts and minds on a big scale this way." - **Washington advocate**

"Our agency is currently bracing for 60-80% cuts to our Victims of Crime Act funding starting in July 2025. While we are looking for more private and state funding, this money is highly competitive and not guaranteed." - **Connecticut advocate**

"Fundraising difficulties are always an issue in the current economic recession. Maintaining our facility in a tropical environment is expensive due to the elements, but it is a priority." - **Northern Mariana Islands advocate**

"A survivor called our hotline, feeling overwhelmed, scared, and hopeless. She and her child had nowhere to go. We provided reassurance and took her to a hotel due to capacity limitations at our shelter. She shared that she was glad she called and had hope for the first time in a long time." - **Maryland advocate**

"On the survey day, a survivor expressed how afraid, overwhelmed, and exhausted she felt as we prepared documents for a civil protective order. We provided emotional support, safety-planned, and offered to connect her and her children with emergency shelter. She shared her gratitude for everything we had done for her." - **Guam advocate**

"After years of struggling with addiction due to abuse, one survivor entered our shelter depleted. On the survey day, she stood tall as a success story. She completed a job-training program and secured full-time employment, and she attributes her success to the safety, counseling, and resources we provided." - **Illinois advocate**



"Programs are shutting down or losing the ability to provide for survivors because the government has decided to aggressively cut the very programs we rely on. The survivors are the ones who feel the wrath of these decisions the most." - **Nebraska advocate**

"Due to a lack of funding for counseling staff, we cannot serve as many clients as needed, resulting in longer wait times and reduced access to vital services. This gap not only impacts those seeking help but also places added strain on our staff, limiting the overall effectiveness of our programs." - **Mississippi advocate**

✖ **“Our staff is self-fundraising their salaries. They’re here because they know survivors need help, and we want to pay them what they need to survive and thrive. Funding is not available in our county. The individuals who call our hotline need safety and hope. When budgets are cut and finances are tight, we have to say ‘no’ to survivors who are in desperate need.” - South Carolina advocate**

Lack of Childcare Hampers Survivors’ Stability

Having access to safe, dependable, and affordable childcare is a necessity for any working parent, especially so for domestic violence survivors, who may be on fixed incomes and parenting by themselves after leaving abusers. Childcare can mean that survivors can gain and maintain employment, meet with service providers, and generally address their own needs so they can create a better life for their children.

With the rising cost of childcare across the country, coupled with programs’ limited funding for these services, survivors are often left to juggle their childcare while trying to simultaneously focus on every other aspect of healing. This can create a ripple effect that prevents them from leaving a shelter, securing housing, holding down a job, and ultimately moving forward on their paths to safety.

A New Jersey advocate shared: “A client was forced to cancel her counseling appointment today due to a lack of childcare. Remote sessions can help, but it can be challenging for survivors to find a safe, comfortable environment when a perpetrator is present. The lack of consistent childcare has continued to be a hardship throughout this client’s journey.”

Loss of Childcare Services

111 programs reported reducing or eliminating childcare or daycare due to staffing or funding in the past 12 months.

Table 9: Childcare Services Reduced or Eliminated due to Staffing/Funding in Past 12 Months	# of Programs Reducing or Eliminating
Childcare/Daycare	111

Reduction or Elimination of Essential Support


Altogether, hundreds of programs reduced or eliminated non-residential supportive services in the past 12 months due to staffing or funding.

Table 10: Top Non-Residential Supportive Services Reduced or Eliminated due to Staffing/Funding in Past 12 Months	# of Programs Reducing or Eliminating
Direct Cash Assistance	133
Transportation	126
Therapy/Counseling for Adults	115
Childcare/Daycare	111
Legal Representation by an Attorney	103
Therapy/Counseling for Children or Youth	97
Prevention and/or Educational Programs	89

✖ **“Survivors often experience compounded trauma, which requires long-term solutions. COVID-19 has also strained our ability to provide consistent support, with staffing shortages and increased costs adding to the challenge. We urge Congress and the administration to continue funding programs that address these unique needs and support trauma-informed systems. Together, we can ensure survivors receive the resources, compassion, and justice they deserve.” - Arkansas advocate**

Domestic violence programs help our country move toward a future where everyone can live safely and access supportive resources and services. Funding helps make this future possible. Learn more and join us: [NNEDV.org](https://nnedv.org)

If someone tells you that they have experienced abuse, listen without judgment, support them, and encourage them to seek services if it is safe for them to do so: [NNEDV.org/GetHelp](https://nnedv.org/GetHelp)

A photograph of an older woman with grey hair, smiling broadly and looking upwards. She is wearing a pink quilted puffer jacket and holding a clear umbrella. The background is blurred, suggesting an outdoor setting. A black text box is overlaid on the top right of the image.

“An older woman came to our office after suffering abuse for decades. We went over her legal and housing options and assured her that she had our support and that we believed her. **She left with a clear safety plan, an understanding of abuse, and a renewed sense of hope.**”

- U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS
ADVOCATE

SERVICES PROVIDED

Table 11: Services Provided by Local Programs		% of Programs Providing Service on 9/4/24	% of Programs Offering Service throughout Past 12 Months	# of Programs Reducing or Eliminating Service due to Staffing/ Funding in Past 12 Months
Housing	Emergency Shelter	68%	77%	4%
	Hotel/Motel Stay	16%	60%	11%
	Support Related to Housing/Landlord	41%	74%	4%
	Transitional or Other Housing (run by DV program)	37%	47%	6%
Children	Childcare/Daycare	17%	40%	6%
	Children's Support	45%	76%	4%
	Safe Exchange/Visitation	5%	18%	4%
	Support Related to Child Welfare/Protective Services	23%	68%	2%
Health Care	HIV/AIDS Information and/or Support	2%	30%	2%
	Onsite Medical Services	3%	15%	3%
	Support Related to Health Care or Health Care Systems	22%	68%	2%
	Support Related to Mental Health	41%	81%	3%
	Support Related to Substance Use	21%	67%	2%
	Therapy/Counseling for Adults	41%	66%	7%
	Therapy/Counseling for Children or Youth	22%	53%	6%
Financial	Direct Cash Assistance	17%	44%	8%
	Financial Literacy/Budgeting	18%	67%	3%
	Job Training/Employment Assistance	16%	56%	3%
	Matched Savings Programs and/or Microloans	2%	9%	4%
	Support Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	38%	82%	2%
Legal	Alternatives to the Criminal Legal System (Transformative, Restorative Justice)	6%	21%	3%
	Court Accompaniment or Legal Support	48%	87%	4%
	Legal Representation by an Attorney	11%	29%	6%
Other	Bilingual Support	43%	70%	4%
	Prevention and/or Educational Programs	30%	77%	5%
	Support Related to Technology Use	15%	62%	2%
	Support to Active Duty or Veteran Victims in U.S. Armed Forces	4%	40%	1%
	Support to Older/Elder Victims of Abuse	26%	76%	2%
	Support to Teen/Young Adult Victims of Dating Abuse	22%	75%	2%
	Support to Victims of Trafficking	18%	69%	2%
	Third-Party Translation/Interpretation Services	18%	64%	2%
	Transportation	49%	87%	7%

✖ REAL STORIES



"The consequences of funding cuts are far-reaching and deeply concerning. We will be forced to make tough decisions and reduce vital programs, leaving victims without support. Cuts send a message of indifference, which chips away at the promise that victims deserve support and justice." - **Idaho advocate**

"We are the only agency in our large, poor county. We received flex funding in April and spent more than half of it by mid-May because our community's needs are so significant. We assisted mainly with car repairs and food and rental assistance. We were completely out of flex funding by September and have no other funding available to help our clients." - **New York advocate**

"A survivor said our services gave her hope, helped her gain independence, and allowed her space to work through her trauma. She encouraged a friend to seek out our services in the hopes that they, too, could obtain safety and independence." - **Pennsylvania advocate**

"We tapped into our community partners to secure baby items for a young mother in shelter who was displaced from her home due to domestic violence. The gratitude and elation were visible on her face. It made her feel as though she had a community of support."
- **Rhode Island advocate**

"A caller reached out to our hotline after years of trauma and abuse, and we were the first people they confided in. We provided emotional support, resources, and safety planning. This gave them the strength to take their first steps toward healing, knowing that there was support and a path forward." - **Wisconsin advocate**



"Las organizaciones sin fines de lucro en Puerto Rico, confrontamos muchas dificultades para brindar servicios a las poblaciones más vulnerables de nuestro país. La disminución en los fondos afecta directamente los servicios de apoyo a ofrecer a las víctimas. Somos el centro con más asistencia a víctimas del área metropolitana, pero la falta de fondos recurrentes afecta la continuidad de los servicios." - **persona intercesora de Puerto Rico**

"We depend on grants and funding to provide clinical oversight, emergency assistance, clothing, hygiene, and staff. Funding reductions have limited our reach in rural communities, including losing all advocates in our rural programs. We provide the only advocate the entire county had." - **Arizona advocate**

SUMMARY DATA

State or Territory	Response Rate ⁵	Adults Served	Children Served	Total People Served	Service Requests Unmet	Hotline Contacts Received	People Educated	People Served in Shelter	People Served in Transitional Housing or Other Housing	People Served in Hotels or Motels	People Served in Non-Residential Supportive Services
AK	100%	322	196	518	97	128	15	292	126	4	96
AL	100%	272	176	448	6	160	402	214	103	0	131
AR	93%	358	231	589	114	230	303	295	78	12	204
AZ	97%	961	471	1432	265	249	258	512	268	52	600
CA	68%	3268	2145	5413	1292	1758	896	1372	1990	119	1932
CO	72%	582	385	967	241	375	241	209	188	19	551
CT	100%	742	346	1088	69	572	98	276	289	17	506
DC	100%	834	318	1152	21	209	78	123	459	13	557
DE	75%	110	67	177	76	16	0	45	39	4	89
FL	78%	1679	925	2604	124	532	207	1217	874	0	513
GA	81%	1094	1001	2095	424	658	175	747	603	43	702
GU	100%	17	26	43	0	4	0	27	0	0	16
HI	100%	334	245	579	51	93	4	99	295	0	185
IA	100%	414	211	625	42	606	148	222	156	7	240
ID	90%	309	183	492	267	132	101	119	174	16	183
IL	98%	2626	1278	3904	845	1192	4069	847	1045	149	1863
IN	100%	1185	663	1848	123	502	567	650	499	5	694
KS	77%	415	235	650	70	198	66	223	129	13	285
KY	100%	794	474	1268	70	174	105	450	328	25	465
LA	100%	413	458	871	83	280	134	204	385	16	266
MA	98%	1698	676	2374	589	410	156	350	469	35	1520
MD	100%	844	385	1229	255	212	60	332	252	31	614
ME	100%	308	147	455	25	135	91	62	221	8	164
MI	96%	1675	1305	2980	572	688	90	1003	950	232	795
MN	55%	1070	491	1561	196	776	173	496	291	11	763
MO	96%	1416	946	2362	624	463	168	827	738	42	755
MP	100%	20	33	53	0	0	0	14	39	0	0
MS	100%	180	95	275	89	77	91	127	62	0	86
MT	53%	151	100	251	5	111	20	112	98	3	38
NC	86%	1005	642	1647	575	922	447	693	353	18	583
ND	95%	219	85	304	52	81	152	65	57	4	178

State or Territory	Response Rate ⁵	Adults Served	Children Served	Total People Served	Unmet Requests for Services	Hotline Contacts Received	People Educated	People Served in Shelter	People Served in Transitional or Other Housing	People Served in Hotels or Motels	People Served in Non-Residential Supportive Services
NE	95%	305	117	422	43	173	160	106	100	21	195
NH	100%	213	125	338	10	99	196	68	150	7	113
NJ	92%	871	463	1334	187	663	498	305	274	154	601
NM	74%	485	318	803	72	137	83	314	245	20	224
NV	100%	325	205	530	36	174	10	227	126	13	164
NY	95%	4815	4077	8892	1717	1601	785	2867	3192	88	2745
OH	100%	1528	1173	2701	347	636	992	951	613	57	1080
OK	76%	796	284	1080	505	180	17	484	259	1	336
OR	62%	1084	829	1913	1259	614	145	285	1147	51	430
PA	93%	1966	1218	3184	483	882	395	850	1145	11	1178
PR	78%	269	177	446	14	114	103	53	258	0	135
RI	100%	465	146	611	63	177	61	64	242	0	305
SC	93%	382	306	688	48	100	108	166	205	19	298
SD	71%	145	102	247	19	87	105	207	5	1	34
TN	100%	624	405	1029	79	282	255	438	162	4	425
TX	84%	3609	2818	6427	856	1730	965	2084	2251	82	2010
UT	93%	639	370	1009	245	248	565	283	360	11	355
VA	85%	854	568	1422	121	1360	442	512	485	38	387
VI	100%	39	25	64	11	46	12	6	20	4	34
VT	100%	214	99	313	24	127	36	96	56	36	125
WA	83%	1767	1203	2970	482	727	502	553	1223	90	1104
WI	86%	1202	753	1955	198	777	637	641	410	18	886
WV	100%	301	68	369	8	110	2	117	89	18	145
WY	100%	56	31	87	6	148	75	52	13	5	17
TOTAL	86%	48,269	30,819	79,088	14,095	23,135	16,464	23,953	24,588	1,647	28,900

✂ “A young woman reached out in need of immediate shelter, expressing her fear and vulnerability. Due to a lack of funding, we didn’t have the resources to place her in a safe location. Tragically, just a few weeks later, we learned that her abuser murdered her. This devastating loss underscores the importance of adequate resources and funding. Her story is one we carry with us every day, a painful reminder of the life-or-death situations survivors face.” – Michigan advocate

⁵ The response rate refers to the percentage of identified primary purpose local domestic violence programs in the state or territory that participated in the 19th Annual Domestic Violence Counts Survey.

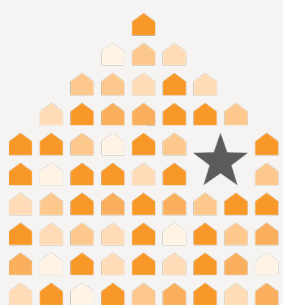


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“Thank you for your kindness, patience, understanding, encouragement, and support. I’ve never felt as low or lost as I did when I stepped foot into shelter, but it helped having your genuine care and willingness to help, while allowing me to grasp for traces of dignity. You are so appreciated for helping me work towards life again. Please know that you helped save my life.”

- SURVIVOR (as told to an Oregon advocate)

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NNEDV
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TO END DOMESTIC
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