

Domestic Violence Counts:07

On September 25, 2007, 10 out of 16, or 63%, of identified domestic violence programs in Connecticut participated in the 2007 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent information from the 10 participating programs about services they provided during the 24-hour survey period.

835 VICTIMS SERVED IN ONE DAY

- 186 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.
- 649 adults and children received non-residential services, including individual counseling, legal advocacy, and children's support groups.
- In just one day, 100% of local programs provided individual counseling or advocacy but only 70% were able to provide transitional housing. Other services provided by programs include:

100% Advocacy with Social Services

100% Children's Counseling/
Advocacy

100% Individual Counseling or
Advocacy

90% Childcare

90% Emergency Shelter

80% Legal Accompaniment/
Services

70% Transitional Housing

60% Group Counseling or
Advocacy

97 UNMET REQUESTS FOR SERVICES

Due to a lack of resources, many programs in Connecticut reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services, such as housing, childcare, mental health and substance abuse counseling, and legal representation.

NOT ENOUGH STAFF

Programs reported that lack of staffing was a reason that they could not meet victims' requests for services. 40% of programs have fewer than 20 paid staff, and 20% of those programs have fewer than 10 paid staff.

217 HOTLINE CALLS ANSWERED

Domestic violence hotlines are a life line for victims in danger. Domestic violence program staff in Connecticut answered more than 9 hotline calls every hour, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources.

200 PEOPLE TRAINED

Individuals across Connecticut attended community education and trainings, gaining much needed information on prevention and early intervention.

We advocated for private legal services at a reduced rate for a client who was in need of legal services related to child custody. Two transitional housing clients who had moved to permanent housing came by for a visit. It was a pleasure to see how relaxed and happy they appeared.

We had to turn away a woman and three children because we had no bed space. The work gets harder and harder. Our clients have more complex issues. We must find more money for staff salaries because we lose great staff members who WANT to do the work and who are good at it because of salary concerns.