

Domestic Violence Counts:07

On September 25, 2007, 13 out of 20, or 65%, of identified domestic violence programs in Louisiana participated in the 2007 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent information from the 13 participating programs about services they provided during the 24-hour survey period.

728 VICTIMS SERVED IN ONE DAY

- 343 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.
- 385 adults and children received non-residential services, including individual counseling, legal advocacy, and children's support groups.
- In just one day, 92% of local programs provided individual counseling or advocacy but only 46% were able to provide transitional housing. Other services provided by programs include:

92% Individual Counseling or Advocacy

85% Children's Counseling/ Advocacy

77% Emergency Shelter

77% Group Counseling or Advocacy

77% Legal Accompaniment/ Services

69% Advocacy with Social Services

54% Childcare

46% Transitional Housing

121 UNMET REQUESTS FOR SERVICES

Due to a lack of resources, many programs in Louisiana 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. 62% of programs have fewer than 20 paid staff, and 15% of those programs have fewer than 10 paid staff.

135 HOTLINE CALLS ANSWERED

Domestic violence hotlines are a life line for victims in danger. Domestic violence program staff in Louisiana answered more than 6 hotline calls every hour, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources.

349 PEOPLE TRAINED

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

We were beyond capacity on the survey day with a record-setting 72 individuals in our shelter. A victim and her seven children needed shelter, and we obtained two motel rooms and two taxis to get them to safety.

Emergency shelters and transitional housing have been delayed in opening because of difficulties with post-Katrina construction and repair.