

Domestic Violence Counts:07

On September 25, 2007, 22 out of 23, or 96%, of identified domestic violence programs in Nebraska participated in the 2007 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent information from the 22 participating programs about services they provided during the 24-hour survey period.

602 VICTIMS SERVED IN ONE DAY

- 246 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.
- 356 adults and children received non-residential services, including individual counseling, legal advocacy, and children's support groups.
- In just one day, 91% of local programs provided individual counseling or advocacy but only 14% were able to provide transitional housing. Other services provided by programs include:

| | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|
| 91% | Individual Counseling or Advocacy |
| 64% | Emergency Shelter |
| 59% | Legal Accompaniment/ Services |
| 55% | Advocacy with Social Services |
| 55% | Group Counseling or Advocacy |
| 45% | Children's Counseling/ Advocacy |
| 36% | Childcare |
| 14% | Transitional Housing |

77 UNMET REQUESTS FOR SERVICES

Due to a lack of resources, many programs in Nebraska 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. 86% of programs have fewer than 20 paid staff, and 36% of those programs have fewer than 10 paid staff.

245 HOTLINE CALLS ANSWERED

Domestic violence hotlines are a life line for victims in danger. Domestic violence program staff in Nebraska answered more than 10 hotline calls every hour, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources.

433 PEOPLE TRAINED

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

One of our advocates was called to the scene of a domestic assault by the local police. The abuser had held a gun to the victim's head and was arrested. Our advocate provided crisis intervention, safety planning, and assisted the victim in obtaining a protection order. She also bought the victim some groceries—all before the children returned home from school.

Because of funding cuts, we spend a large portion of our time trying to locate funding for living expenses and health care. The fact that many other agencies we work with have also suffered from funding cuts only makes this task more difficult and time consuming.