

Domestic Violence Counts:07

On September 25, 2007, 9 out of 26, or 35%, of identified domestic violence programs in New Mexico participated in the 2007 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent information from the 9 participating programs about services they provided during the 24-hour survey period.

473 VICTIMS SERVED IN ONE DAY

- 261 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.
- 212 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 33% were able to provide transitional housing. Other services provided by programs include:

100% Individual Counseling or Advocacy

89% Legal Accompaniment/ Services

67% Advocacy with Social Services

67% Children's Counseling/ Advocacy

67% Emergency Shelter

56% Group Counseling or Advocacy

33% Transitional Housing

22% Childcare

24 UNMET REQUESTS FOR SERVICES

Due to a lack of resources, many programs in New Mexico 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. 56% of programs have fewer than 20 paid staff, and 33% of those programs have fewer than 10 paid staff.

131 HOTLINE CALLS ANSWERED

Domestic violence hotlines are a life line for victims in danger. Domestic violence program staff in New Mexico answered more than 5 hotline calls every hour, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources.

66 PEOPLE TRAINED

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

We opened a new shelter this year that doubled our capacity from 12 to 25 beds. Our population on census day was 28! It is already obvious that our new facility will not be able to accommodate the huge need for our services.

Today we received an e-mail from Legal Aid, our referral source for divorce and custody issues. We were informed that we had already used up all the legal funds available to our clients for the entire year. Our year begins July 1, so we have used all the funding in less than 3 months.