

# Domestic Violence Counts:07

On September 25, 2007, 38 out of 46, or 83%, of identified domestic violence programs in Virginia participated in the 2007 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent information from the 38 participating programs about services they provided during the 24-hour survey period.

## 1,035 VICTIMS SERVED IN ONE DAY

- 545 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.
- 490 adults and children received non-residential services, including individual counseling, legal advocacy, and children’s support groups.
- In just one day, 97% of local programs provided individual counseling or advocacy but only 34% were able to provide transitional housing. Other services provided by programs include:

|     |                                   |
|-----|-----------------------------------|
| 97% | Individual Counseling or Advocacy |
| 82% | Emergency Shelter                 |
| 74% | Advocacy with Social Services     |
| 68% | Children’s Counseling/ Advocacy   |
| 68% | Legal Accompaniment/ Services     |
| 47% | Group Counseling or Advocacy      |
| 34% | Transitional Housing              |
| 29% | Childcare                         |

## 178 UNMET REQUESTS FOR SERVICES

Due to a lack of resources, many programs in Virginia 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. 82% of programs have fewer than 20 paid staff, and 39% of those programs have fewer than 10 paid staff.

## 586 HOTLINE CALLS ANSWERED

Domestic violence hotlines are a life line for victims in danger. Domestic violence program staff in Virginia answered more than 24 hotline calls every hour, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources.

## 981 PEOPLE TRAINED

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

One of our client’s found out today that she has been approved for a financial assistance program that will pay the security deposit and first month’s rent for her new apartment. This is the first time in 12 years that this client will have lived independently. She has worked with the case manager to develop a budget to assist her in maintaining her goal of safe independence.

We have a population of 1 million in our county, but there are only 29 shelter beds available due to lack of funding. As a result, we accept people based on the level of physical violence and future danger risk. This limits the services available to emotionally abused women.