

Domestic Violence Counts:07

On September 25, 2007, 14 out of 14, or 100%, of identified domestic violence programs in West Virginia participated in the 2007 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent information from the 14 participating programs about services they provided during the 24-hour survey period.

583 VICTIMS SERVED IN ONE DAY

- 160 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.
- 423 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 14% were able to provide transitional housing. Other services provided by programs include:

100% Individual Counseling or Advocacy

93% Legal Accompaniment/ Services

86% Emergency Shelter

64% Advocacy with Social Services

64% Children's Counseling/ Advocacy

64% Group Counseling or Advocacy

36% Childcare

14% Transitional Housing

48 UNMET REQUESTS FOR SERVICES

Due to a lack of resources, many programs in West 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. 79% of programs have fewer than 20 paid staff, and 7% of those programs have fewer than 10 paid staff.

120 HOTLINE CALLS ANSWERED

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

229 PEOPLE TRAINED

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

On the survey day, we held a candlelight vigil for four families whose loved ones were killed in incidents of domestic violence.

Transportation is a big hindrance for domestic violence victims. With only limited staff to provide transportation, women are not able to get to appointments and services that are crucial to their court cases.