

# 2008

Domestic Violence Counts  
The National Census of Domestic Violence Services

# Guam Summary

On September 17, 2008, 3 out of 3, or 100%, of identified domestic violence programs in Guam participated in the 2008 National Census of Domestic Violence Services.

## 18 Victims Served In One Day

12 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

6 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including individual counseling, legal advocacy, and children's support groups.

### Percentage of Participating Programs Providing These Services On the Census Day

67%	Individual Support or Advocacy
67%	Transitional Housing
33%	Group Support or Advocacy
33%	Emergency Shelter (including hotels or safe houses)
33%	Advocacy Related to Housing Office/Landlord
33%	Job Training/Employment Assistance

## 4 Hotline Calls Answered

Domestic violence hotlines are a lifeline for victims in danger, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources.

## 150 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 150 individuals in communities across Guam attended 5 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

## 8 Unmet Requests for Services In One Day

Programs reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services such as transportation, childcare, language translation, mental health and substance abuse counseling, and legal representation

Programs reported that lack of staffing was a reason that they could not meet domestic violence victims' request for services. 67% of programs that have less than 10 paid staff. The average starting salary of a full-time, salaried front-line advocate is \$18,667.

*"One of the women we work with is a survivor— she got a job, moved away from the house where she was abused, and is now rebuilding her life with her son. She has her life back and hope in her heart. Even though at times she feels overwhelmed, she still knows that she'll never feel alone and trapped again."*

*"It is a challenge every year to stay open to serve victims because of funding cuts. Often times our staff and volunteer pay for victim services out of their own pockets. Our program is the only one of its kind here on our island, and if we close our doors, victims would not get any help."*