

2008

Domestic Violence Counts
The National Census of Domestic Violence Services

Hawaii Summary

On September 17, 2008, 18 out of 21, or 86%, of identified domestic violence programs in Hawaii participated in the 2008 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 18 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

521 Victims Served In One Day

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

356 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

83%	Individual Support or Advocacy
50%	Children's Support or Advocacy
39%	Emergency Shelter (including hotels or safe houses)
28%	Advocacy Related to Immigration
22%	Legal Accompaniment/Services
17%	Transitional Housing
6%	Advocacy Related to Child Welfare/CPS
6%	Translation/Interpretation Services

110 Hotline Calls Answered

Domestic violence hotlines are a lifeline for victims in danger, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources. In the 24-hour survey period, domestic violence programs answered more than 5 hotline calls every hour.

176 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 176 individuals in communities across Hawaii attended 10 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

28 Unmet Requests for Services In One Day

Many 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. 78% of programs have less than 20 paid staff, including 72% of programs that have less than 10 paid staff. The average starting salary of a full-time, salaried front-line advocate is \$27,138.

Attorneys

Victims of domestic violence often need legal assistance with restraining orders and civil and family court matters. Of programs that participated in the Census, only 6% of programs reported being able to regularly connect a victim requesting legal assistance with an attorney.

"We found out that the abuser of one of our clients was registering for a gun permit at our local police station. Through collaboration with our local police, the abuser was prevented from getting a gun permit."

"It's frustrating not having housing options for women with children. Not enough affordable housing and overcrowded homes often creates more stress for families. Furthermore, our program is serving more women who are dealing with extreme violence but, because of economic insecurity, they are less likely to leave."