

2008

Domestic Violence Counts
The National Census of Domestic Violence Services

Oklahoma Summary

On September 17, 2008, 27 out of 35, or 77%, of identified domestic violence programs in Oklahoma participated in the 2008 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 27 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

758 Victims Served In One Day

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

380 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

93%	Individual Support or Advocacy
63%	Children's Support or Advocacy
41%	Legal Accompaniment/Services
30%	Group Support or Advocacy
30%	Transitional Housing
22%	Financial Skills/Budgeting
11%	Translation/Interpretation Services
11%	Rural Outreach

488 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 20 hotline calls every hour.

157 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 157 individuals in communities across Oklahoma attended 17 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

73 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. Of these unmet requests, 33 were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

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 37% of programs that have less than 10 paid staff. The average starting salary of a full-time, salaried front-line advocate is \$22,532.

"Today a woman who had been abused for almost two years filed an emergency protection order with my help. She said, 'I want the hurt to stop!'"

"In July 2007, our area experienced severe flooding and a few months later a tornado came through destroying parts of our community. As we continue to rebuild, lack of money and public housing are contributing to our inability to provide victims with safe permanent housing. Our area is also very rural so women have limited choices when preparing to leave or wanting to leave."