

# '09 Domestic Violence Counts Arkansas Summary

On September 15, 2009, 35 out of 37, or 95%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Arkansas participated in the 2009 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by the 35 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

## 606 Victims Served in One Day

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

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

This chart shows the percentage of programs that provided the following services on the Census Day.

Services Provided by Local Programs:	Sept 15
Individual Support or Advocacy	71%
Emergency Shelter	63%
Group Support or Advocacy	46%
Transportation	43%
Children's Support or Advocacy	37%
Court Accompaniment/Advocacy	31%
Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	23%
Transitional Housing	20%

## 165 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 approximately 7 hotline calls every hour.

## 1,207 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 1,207 individuals in communities across Arkansas attended 16 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

## 54 Unmet Requests for Services

Many programs reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of services, such as emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare, and legal representation. Of these unmet requests, 48 (89%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons, as reported below.

- 34% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 26% reported not enough specialized services.
- 26% reported not enough staff.
- 20% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 11% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

"On the Census Day, two women miscarried as a result of domestic violence."

"A woman was able to obtain a protection order with the help of an advocate. Her abuser sexually molested her child and threatened to kill them both if she went to the authorities."