

# '09 Domestic Violence Counts Florida Summary

On September 15, 2009, 42 out of 42, or 100%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Florida participated in the 2009 National Census of Domestic Violence Services.

### 3,097 Victims Served in One Day

1,824 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs.

1,273 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
Emergency Shelter	100%
Individual Support or Advocacy	98%
Children's Support or Advocacy	81%
Group Support or Advocacy	74%
Transportation	71%
Court Accompaniment/Advocacy	69%
Advocacy Related to Public Benefits/TANF/Welfare	62%
Advocacy Related to Child Welfare/Protective Services	52%

### 731 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 30 hotline calls every hour.

### 834 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 834 individuals in communities across Florida attended 52 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

### 234 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, 72 (31%) were from victims seeking emergency shelter or transitional housing.

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

- 🏠 40% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 🏠 29% reported not enough specialized services.
- 🏠 26% reported not enough staff.
- 🏠 24% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 🏠 10% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

"One survivor wants to relocate to another state for more job opportunities but she can't because of custody issues. Becoming economically secure is difficult."

"Many survivors we work with need dental care, but there is no low-cost or free dental services in our community. Many of them struggle with tooth pain, infections, and abscesses daily."