

# '09 Domestic Violence Counts Illinois Summary

On September 15, 2009, 62 out of 68, or 91%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Illinois participated in the 2009 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by the 62 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

## 2,830 Victims Served in One Day

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

1,920 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
Legal Representation by an Attorney	8%
Transportation	48%
Transitional Housing	44%
Advocacy Related to Mental Health	26%
Advocacy Related to Substance Abuse	11%
Advocacy Related to Child Welfare/Protective Services	19%
Advocacy Related to Immigration	18%
Translation/Interpretation Services	18%

## 1,236 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 52 hotline calls every hour.

## 930 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 930 individuals in communities across Illinois attended 76 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

## 711 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, 168 (24%) 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 staff.
- 🏠 27% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 🏠 44% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 🏠 19% reported not enough specialized services.
- 🏠 15% of programs had limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

“On the Census Day, we had a large family come to our shelter. As we were getting them settled, the police brought in another victim who had been abused. It was an incredibly busy day.”

“Today was a good day: we got a financial donation, a translator was available to help survivors get protection orders from their abusers, and we were able to obtain a bus pass for a client to get to work.”