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Domestic Violence Counts Texas Summary

On September 15, 2011, 91 out of 104, or 88%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Texas participated in the 2011 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information provided by 91 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

5,598 Victims Served in One Day

3,448 domestic violence victims found refuge in emergency shelters or transitional housing provided by local domestic violence programs. In addition to a safe place to lay their heads at night, shelter residents were provided with a variety of comprehensive services, some of which are listed in the chart below.

2,150 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
Children's Support or Advocacy	82%
Emergency Shelter (including hotels or safe houses)	73%
Transportation	57%
Bilingual Advocacy (services by a bilingual advocate)	54%
Job Training/Employment Assistance	33%
Translation/Interpretation Services (3rd party translator w/ advocate)	25%
Legal Representation by an Attorney	24%

2,250 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, Texas programs answered more than 1 call every minute.

1,212 Unmet Requests for Services

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.

45% of Unmet Requests Were for Housing

With 549 unmet requests, emergency shelter and transitional housing continue to be urgent unmet needs. Other frequently requested unmet needs include legal representation, counseling, and legal advocacy.

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 45% reported not enough funding for needed programs and services.
- 34% reported not enough staff.
- 27% reported not enough specialized services.
- 18% reported no available beds or funding for hotels.
- 14% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

"A group of Spanish-speaking clients gathered today to discuss ways to help other women in their community who continue to live in fear. Some of their ideas included reaching out to young women through schools and community programs, telling their stories to Spanish-language radio programs, and engaging in a training program to reach out to women. The energy in the room was inspiring!"

