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Domestic Violence Counts Alaska Summary

On September 12, 2012, 17 out of 19, or 89%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Alaska participated in the 2012 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 17 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

464 Victims Served in One Day

344 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.

120 adults and children received non-residential assistance and services, including 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. 12
Individual Support or Advocacy	88%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	82%
Advocacy Related to Housing	82%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	71%
Advocacy Related to Mental Health	59%
Advocacy Related to Substance Abuse	47%
Job Training/Employment Assistant	29%
Bilingual Advocacy	24%

114 Hotline Calls Answered

Domestic violence hotlines are a lifeline for victims in danger, providing support, information, safety planning, and resources.

308 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 308 individuals in communities across Alaska attended 13 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

52 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day

Victims made more than 50 request for services, including emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare, and legal representation, that could not be provided because programs did not have the resources to offer these services.

67% of Unmet Requests Were for Housing

Emergency shelter and transitional housing continue to be the most urgent unmet needs with 35 requests unmet.

Of the unmet requests, the following services were the most requested:

1. Emergency Shelter
2. Transitional Housing
3. Attorney/Legal Representation

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 24% reported limited funding for programs and services.
- 12% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

“Compassionate lawyers really make all the difference. The court system is very hard to navigate and many victims feel that the process is too difficult. This often results in them not getting protection orders, divorces, or even demanding their rights. We don’t have enough pro-bono lawyers and our single full-time legal advocate isn’t enough to meet our demand.”

