

# '12

## Domestic Violence Counts Louisiana Summary

On September 12, 2012, 18 out of 18, or 100%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Louisiana participated in the 2012 National Census of Domestic Violence Services.

### 627 Victims Served in One Day

371 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.

256 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	100%
Emergency Shelter (including hotels/safe houses)	100%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	83%
Group Support or Advocacy	78%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	56%
Transportation	56%
Rural Outreach	44%
Financial Skills/Budgeting	33%

### 195 Hotline Calls Answered

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

### 117 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 117 individuals in communities across Louisiana attended 11 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

### 63 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day

Victims made more than 60 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.

### 70% of Unmet Requests Were for Housing

Emergency shelter and transitional housing continue to be the most urgent unmet needs with 44 requests unmet.

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

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

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 39% reported no beds and no money for hotel stays.
- 22% reported not enough staff.
- 17% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.
- 11% reported imited funding for needed programs and services.
- 11% reported not enough specialized services (e.g., drug and alcohol counselor).

“The majority of survivors that we work with live in rural areas with no public transportation, which makes it harder for them to access services. We had support services operating in those areas, but we’ve had to close them becuase of budget cuts.”

