

# '12

## Domestic Violence Counts Maine Summary

On September 12, 2012, 10 out of 10, or 100%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Maine participated in the 2012 National Census of Domestic Violence Services.

### 463 Victims Served in One Day

222 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.

241 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)	70%
Transitional Housing	90%
Children's Support or Advocacy	100%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	70%
Advocacy Related to Housing Office/Landlord	50%
Rural Outreach	60%
Advocacy Related to Substance Abuse	50%

### 119 Hotline Calls Answered

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

### 172 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 172 individuals in communities across Maine attended 6 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

### 36 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day

Victims made more than 30 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.

### 44% of Unmet Requests Were for Housing

Emergency shelter and transitional housing continue to be the most urgent unmet needs with 16 requests unmet.

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

1. Attorney/Legal Representation
2. Transitional Housing
3. Legal Advocacy/Accompaniment

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 40% reported not enough staff.
- 30% reported limited funding for needed programs and services.
- 20% reported no available beds or money for hotel stays.

The relationship between healthcare practitioners and domestic violence programs is necessary in order to meet survivors' needs. In the past year domestic violence programs provided 75 trainings to health care professionals and received 166 of referrals from health care practitioners.

"Not enough staffing is a huge barrier. Our advocates are stretched to capacity, but demand for services, particularly court and legal advocacy, continue to increase."

