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Domestic Violence Counts Minnesota Summary

On September 12, 2012, 33 out of 63, or 52%, of identified local domestic violence programs in Minnesota participated in the 2012 National Census of Domestic Violence Services. The following figures represent the information reported by the 33 participating programs about services provided during the 24-hour survey period.

1,272 Victims Served in One Day

760 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.

512 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	91%
Emergency Shelter (including hotels/safe houses)	48%
Court/Legal Accompaniment/Advocacy	58%
Children’s Support or Advocacy	70%
Transitional Housing	33%
Transportation	58%
Advocacy Related to Child Welfare/Protective Services	33%
Advocacy Related to Mental Health	42%

458 Hotline Calls Answered

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

804 Educated in Prevention and Education Trainings

On the survey day, 804 individuals in communities across Minnesota attended 12 training sessions provided by local domestic violence programs, gaining much needed information on domestic violence prevention and early intervention.

447 Unmet Requests for Services in One Day

Victims made more than 400 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.

92% of Unmet Requests Were for Housing

Emergency shelter and transitional housing continue to be the most urgent unmet needs with 411 requests unmet.

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

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

Programs were unable to provide services for many reasons:

- 33% reported not enough staff.
- 30% reported no available beds or money for hotel stays.
- 18% reported limited funding for needed programs and services.
- 9% reported limited funding for translators, bilingual staff, or accessible equipment.

“Even though we’ve had to make the difficult decision to cut staff hours due to recent state funding cuts, the requests for help continue to increase. We won’t turn people away when we’ve worked so hard to increase awareness and let people know that they can turn to our program for help and support.”

